

THE North-China Herald

AND SUPREME COURT & CONSULAR GAZETTE.

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CONTENTS.

Advertisements—Latest dates—Births, Marriages, and Deaths, &c.	
Arrivals and Departures of Passengers, Shipping, &c.	
LEADING ARTICLES—	
The Tea Trade.....	361
SUMMARY OF NEWS.....	362
MISCELLANEOUS ARTICLES—	
Hongkong.....	365
Affairs in the South-east of Europe	365
Bi-metallism.....	366
The Court of Consuls and Kerosene	367
Cargoes.....	367
The Shipping Interest.....	367
The Death of Mr. Forster.....	368
Reviews—	
English-mail Papers.....	369
China Review—Jan.-Feb.	370
OUTPOKIS, &c.—	
Peking.....	370
Tientsin.....	370
Corea.....	371
MEETINGS—	
Municipal Council.....	371
Shanghai General Chamber of Commerce	372
Selangor Tin Mining Co. of Shanghai.....	373
The Shanghai Electric Co.	373
Shanghai Cricket Club.....	374
Shanghai Public School.....	374
AMUSEMENTS—	
The Eighty-fifth Performance by the A.D.C.....	375
No. 1 Co., S.V.C., Rifle Competition.....	375
CORRESPONDENCE—	
Missionary Meetings.....	376
The Duty on Tea.....	376
Kerosene and the Consuls.....	376
LAW REPORTS—	
H.B.M.'s Supreme Court—In Admiralty—	
The Owners of the British steamship Glamorganshire (Williams, Master), defendants and appellants, v. the Captain, Owners and Crew of the American ship <i>Clarissa B. Carter</i> , plaintiffs and respondents; and the Owners of the British steamship Glamorganshire (Williams, Master), defendants and appellants, v. S. D. Warren & Co., plaintiffs and respondents.....	376
COMMERCIAL INTELLIGENCE AND WEEKLY SUMMARY—	
Market Reports.....	378
Exchange Quotations.....	384
Share Quotations, &c.	384

Miscellaneous Intelligence.

LATEST MAIL DATES.

England.....	Feb. 19	Hankow.....	April 3
Sau Francisco.....	Mar. 3	Yokohama.....	Mar. 24
Hongkong.....	April 2	Nagasaki.....	31
Tientsin.....	3	Foochow.....	31

The English mail of 24th February, arrived in London on the 5th instant.

MARRIAGE.

At the Cathedral, Shanghai, on the 5th inst., by the Ven. Archdeacon Moule, B.D., J. A. THOMSON, Yokohama, to RUTH McCOWAN, M.D., Am. Baptist Mission, Shanghai; eldest daughter of the Rev. John W. McCowan, D.D., Gordonsville, Virginia, U.S.A.

PASSENGERS.

DEPARTED.

Per str. *Patroclus*, for London—Captain and Mrs. Drage and two children, Mr. and Mrs. Holland and two children, and Mr. E. Robinson.

Per str. *Nagoya Maru*, for Nagasaki—Lieut. Tedatoff. For Hiogo—Miss Talcott, Miss Richards, Messrs. S. Marsh, M. S. Jerdein, J. D. Davis, and Lieut. Zimmer. For Yokohama—Mrs. Noble, Miss E. Wilson, Capt. Sonne, M. D'Aigremont. For San Francisco—Dr. Henderson, Miss M. N. Porter. For Liverpool—Miss Barton, and Mrs. Towers.

Per str. *Haeon*, for Tientsin—Mr. W. F. Smith.

Per str. *Fuyew*, for Foochow—Messrs. Geo. Butler and Dunman.

Per str. *Ningpo*, for Hongkong—Messrs. W. Brand, H. Bles and Iuge.

Per str. *Kungpai*, for Newchwang—Mr. A. Schmidt.

Per str. *Fushun*, for Amoy—Mr. L. Rocher.

Per str. *Nanzing*, for Foochow—Messrs. E. E. Porter, G. Smith, J. H. Leech and C. H. Hutchings.

Per str. *Kiangteen*, for Ningpo—Mr. Southcott.

ARRIVED.

Per str. *Prometheus*, from London, &c.—Dr. and Mrs. Pritchard, Rev. S. E. and Mrs. Meech and three children, Rev. J. W. and Mrs. Wilson, Mrs. Shaw and two children, and Mr. Zimmer.

Per str. *Deccan*, from Bombay—Mr. T. Lang. From Brindisi—Mr. P. V. Grant. From Venice—Mr. and Mrs. Burkill, Mr. and Mrs. Bush and three daughters, Mr. and Mrs. Yorke, and Mr. E. Arbuthnot. From London—Dr. Dudgeon, Mr. and Mrs. Brounion, Miss Davis, Miss Tapscott, Miss Fausett, and Miss Ward. From Hongkong—Messrs. Love, Wood, T. Cousin, D. Sayle, F. A. Morgan and B. Craig.

Per str. *Hiroshima Maru*, from Japan—Mrs. Lampert and two daughters, Messrs. J. A. Thomson, W. F. Harris, Yue Sin-sing and Yasusumi.

Per str. *Haeting*, from Tientsin—Mr. and Mrs. W. B. Russell, child and maid, and Mr. J. Wilson.

Per str. *Haeon*, from Tientsin—Herr von Schewe.

Per str. *Pekin*, from Hankow—Mr. and Mrs. L. Rocher. From Kiukiang—Mr. H. J. Fisher. From Wuhu—Mr. H. Burrows. From Chinkiang—Mrs. and Miss Emery.

Per str. *Kungwo*, from Hankow—Mrs. Woodward and two children.

Per str. *Ichang*, from Ningpo—Mr. Taylor.

Per str. *Fushun*, from Hongkong—Mr. and Mrs. Jurgens, Miss Roberts, Messrs. Skipworth and Wong.

Per str. *Nanzing*, from Foochow—Mr. and Mrs. James Graham, Rev. Mr. Bannister, and Mr. H. C. Matheson.

Per str. *Ichang*, from Ningpo—Rev. Mr. and Mrs. Fuller and infant.

Per str. *Kiangteen*, from Ningpo—Rev. Mr. and Mrs. Valentine, Rev. Mr. and Mrs. Groves, Rev. Mr. Hoare, Rev. Mr. Morgan, and Mr. Parry.

Per str. *Flintshire*, from Kobe—Mr. Clark.

Per str. *Ichang*, from Ningpo—Mr. Bates.

Per str. *Nyankin*, from Kiukiang—Mr. and Mrs. G. Jamieson and four children. From Chinkiang—Mr. Kirby.

Per str. *Chefoo*, from Chefoo—Mr. and Mrs. Unwin and three children.

Per str. *Pautah*, from Tientsin—Mr. Samwer.

Per str. *Yungning*, from Wenchow—Mr. Canniffy.

Per str. *Wuchang*, from Tientsin—Mr. and Mrs. Fiendel and infant, Mr. and Mrs. Lowry and three children.

Per str. *Kiangyung*, from Chinkiang—Mr. Buchanan.

Per str. *Leesang*, from Swatow and Amoy—Mrs. McLeavy Brown, and Mr. Southcott.

Per str. *Kiangteen*, from Ningpo—Miss E. Inven.

Per str. *W. Cores de Vries*, from Kiukiang—Mr. R. P. Carr.

LEAVING.

Per str. *Hydaspes*, for Singapore—Misses (2) Trotter, Mr. Kuagg. For Hongkong—Madame Paschkoff, General Shepard, Miss Hillman, Messrs. T. H. Whitehead, Craig, W. J. Hubbard, Sergeants Savage and Moss. For London—Mr. and Mrs. Unwin and 3 children, Messrs. Jas Wilson and McCallum.

The North-China Herald.

IMPARTIAL NOT NEUTRAL.

SHANGHAI, WEDNESDAY, APRIL 7, 1886.

It is gratifying to see that the remonstrances of the Chairman at the annual meeting of the Chamber of Commerce had due effect and that a sufficient number of members attended at the adjourned meeting on Monday last. The business that was brought before the members was not of capital importance, but interest was evidently taken in the discussions which did occur, enough at any rate to absolve the Chamber from the charge of absolute apathy. We sympathise with the Chairman in his lamentations on the decline in the Chamber's income caused by a diminished subscription to the fortnightly market report. The cause of this diminution is not far to seek. Every year firms here become more and more specialists, and the old days in which every firm undertook every kind of business have quite passed away. Specialist circulars have grown up as our business firms have diverged into certain lines of trade, and these private special circulars are subscribed for and sent home now, where formerly the general market report of the Chamber was adopted. It would be almost impossible for the Secretary of the Chamber to compile a circular every week, containing all the information given in these private circulars, and we therefore see little hope that the Chamber's income will be increased by any practicable improvement in the Market-Report. A minor point to observe is, that the Chamber's report, in accordance with old custom, is only published

fortnightly, while its competitors notice no distinction in importance between the French and English mails.

The most striking question discussed at the meeting was introduced by a letter from Messrs. Welch, Lewis & Co., asking the Chamber to represent to the Ministers at Peking and the Inspector-General of Customs, the injury done to the tea trade by the local taxation and export duty on tea. The subject has been recently thoroughly presented in our columns by Correspondents. The most noticeable point in the discussion was the diametrically opposite views enunciated by two well-informed speakers, both of whom have had a long experience in the trade, Mr. Welch and Mr. Hertz. Mr. Welch follows K.C.Y. in holding that the trade is being injured by the curtailment of the export, which in its turn is due to the heavy taxation to which the leaf is subject before it is put on board the London steamer; while Mr. Hertz considers that it is not a question of duties at all, but that the trade is suffering from over-production, the amount produced and sent forward being so far in excess of requirements that it can never be got rid of in London before the new crop arrives. Mr. J. M. Young, who has also been engaged for many years in the tea trade, agreed entirely with Mr. Hertz, and made the somewhat unaccountable statement that he believed it would be to the detriment of the foreign trader to remove the duty on tea. Mr. Purdon, mindful of the celebrated paradox of the dramatist:—

"My wound is great because it is so small!"—

"Then 'twould be greater, were it none at all!"—

pointed out that if Mr. Hertz's theory was correct, the best thing for the trade would be that the duties should be made so high as to stop the export altogether; and at this point the information given by the speakers was recommended to the consideration of the incoming committee.

Our own opinion is, that there is much truth in the views both of Mr. Welch and Mr. Hertz, but that neither of them hit the real blot on the tea trade. The actual cost of picking, firing, packing, inland freight and duty, export duty and freight and charges to London on a pound of tea is said to be at least sixpence, and at this figure nothing is left to the producer, except the nominal payment to his family for the time spent in picking the leaf. It is stated however that the producer gets as a rule at least three-pence a pound for his leaf, and does not pick the leaf at all, unless he can get that, from which it would appear that there is more or less loss on every pound of tea sold in London for less

than nine-pence. Millions of pounds are sold in London every year for a great deal less than nine-pence a pound; and even if the inland duties were taken away altogether, there would still be a great deal of tea sold at an apparent loss. On the other hand, it is well-known that the teamen, the middlemen that is, made such good profits last year on the average, that the preparations for packing this coming season are larger than ever before. It must be then that either the inland duties are over-estimated, or the profits on the first and second crop teas more than make up for the losses on the common grades. Therefore we cannot agree with Mr. Welch that the inland taxation is strangling the trade. We regard Mr. Hertz's view as fallacious because it is an axiom that the soundest condition for the merchant is large crops and low prices; to restrict production may give temporary relief to an overloaded market, but at the expense of permanent injury. What those who discuss the tea trade are apt to forget is, that relatively only a small portion of the total tea-harvest is gathered for the purposes of export. There are 250,000,000 of people in China, who drink tea morning, noon and night, while there are not more than 150,000,000 of people in western countries who drink tea, and with them it is only one of many beverages. Thus only a limited portion of the tea grown in China is prepared for foreign use, and the prices paid by foreigners do not regulate the supply of tea-leaf at all. The area of unoccupied land suitable for tea-planting in China is practically unlimited, and of the tea already planted much remains unpicked every year. It is quite true that the export of tea from China has only increased to a trifling extent, if at all, in the last few years, but that is not because the duties on tea are too high; but because first, the superiority of strength in the tea from India, Java and Ceylon has given those kinds the preference in London, so that China tea now is only wanted to fill up the deficiencies in those crops; and secondly because the improvements in telegraphic and steam communication render it no longer necessary to keep large stocks in London, and the trade there has been gradually working off the accumulations of former years. There is no reason to believe that even now India can lay down tea in London at less cost than China can: for against the inland taxation in China, India has to put dearer land, dearer labour, and loss by diseases and insects from which the tea-plant in China seems to be entirely free. A reduction in the inland taxation would make

China's competition with India more severe than it is, but India will maintain its preference in London until foreigners are allowed or encouraged to go into the tea-districts with the improved machinery used in India, and supervise the manufacture of the leaf to suit the tastes of the buyers at home. It is the acknowledged deterioration of the quality of China tea in recent years, deterioration that can only be cured apparently by foreign supervision, that has put China tea so far behind its rivals on the London market. After all, when once the teaman has brought his tea to Hankow or Shanghai, he is just as much obliged to sell it at the best price he can get, as the shipper here is forced to sell it sooner or later in London: and, generally speaking, it is not the cost of production which influences the price in Hankow or Shanghai, but the value which the foreign buyer thinks the tea will bring in London. A moderated export for a year or two more, which however we can hardly hope to see, would lead to such a reduction of the stock in London, that the China tea trade would be put once more in a thoroughly healthy condition.

We have already dealt at some length on the other important question before the meeting of the Chamber, the revision of the Harbour Regulations, and we heartily join with the Chairman in hoping that the incoming Committee will succeed in deciding on and erecting a suitable memorial to Sir Harry Parkes.

Summary of News.

The English mail of 19th February arrived here on the 1st inst., by the P. & O. Co.'s str. *Deccan*.

A mail leaves to-morrow morning for Europe, by the P. & O. Co.'s str. *Hydaspes*.

LATEST INTELLIGENCE.

[BY EASTERN EXTENSION A. AND C. TEL. CO.]
(THROUGH REUTER'S AGENCY.)

GREAT DISTURBANCES IN BELGIUM.

London, 29th March.

There is a general strike of colliers in Belgium, and a sanguinary conflict has occurred with the troops. The Reserves have been partially called out.

THE RUSSIAN FLEET.

The Russian Squadron at Suda Bay has been ordered to Smyrna.

THE RIOTS IN BELGIUM.

London, 30th March.

Affairs in Belgium are becoming tranquillised.

THE BULGARIAN GOVERNORSHIP.

London, 1st April.

Prince Alexander is unyielding; despite the pressure of the Porte, and

the Great Powers urging his acceptance of the Governorship for five years.

A RUSSIAN THREAT.

The *Daily News* publishes a telegram stating that Russia threatens to occupy Bulgaria.

SERVIAN POLITICS.

London, 3rd April.

A new Servian Government has been formed.

THE BOAT RACE.

The University Boat Race was won by Cambridge by a quarter of a length, after a severe struggle.

SERVIA.

London, 4th April.

The announcement of the formation of a new Servian Government was premature.

A GREEK LOAN.

A Ministerial Bill has been introduced in the Greek Chamber for a loan of 25* million Drachmas, for the increase of the army and navy.

* (Something less than a million sterling.—Ed.)

THE SQUADRONS.

The English and Austrian squadrons at Suda Bay have been reinforced.

THE FRENCH AT LAOKAI.

The French have occupied Laokai.

THE RUSSIAN SQUADRON RETURNS.

London, 5th April.

The Russian squadron has returned to Suda Bay.

GOVERNORSHIP OF ROUMELIA.

After a Conference, a Protocol has been signed, providing for a five years' Governorship of Roumelia.

DEATH OF MR. FORSTER.

The Rt. Hon. W. E. Forster is dead.

On Thursday morning last their Excellencies M. Popoff, Russian Minister, and Major-General Cameron, and M. de Bélabre left Shanghai. The French Police supplied a guard of honour of twelve French and twelve Chinese constables who were drawn up at the Rue de Consulat Jetty as the Russian Minister left in a boat placed at his disposal by the Captain of the Russian gunboat *Morge*. General Cameron departed, in a boat sent by H.M.S. *Rambler*, under a salute of thirteen guns by the Shanghai Volunteer Artillery, while a guard of honour consisting of some forty Volunteers under the command of Captain Lanning was drawn up at the Kiukiang Road Jetty. Major Holliday and Capt. Morrison were also present. The General, in saying good bye, wished the Corps happiness and prosperity, and after a short conversation with Major Holliday, stepped into his boat. M. de Bélabre, of the French Consulate, went off from the Rue de Consulat Jetty amid the vivats of his compatriots. Owing to the departure on leave of Mr. Hennigsen and Captain Suenson, both of the Great Northern Telegraph Company, the Company's steamer *store Nordiske* was decorated with flags.

Mr. G. Jamieson, H.M.'s Consul at Kiukiang, arrived here on Sunday in the *Ngankin* to take up the position of Assistant Judge during Mr. Mowat's absence. Before leaving Kiukiang, he was presented by the Chinese at that port with a "Thousand Name Umbrella."

Mr. Kempermann, the newly appointed Consul-General of Germany to Corea, ar-

rived at Hongkong on the 29th ult., by the steamer *Zufiro* from Manila. He will proceed to his new post in a week.

We learn from the *Amoy Gazette* that Mr. and Mrs. R. J. Forrest left Amoy on the 19th of March to join the M.M.S.S. *Ara* in Hongkong. Mr. Forrest is on his way to Europe on leave.

On Friday last the new Shanghai Tao-t'ai paid his first official visit to the foreign Consuls.

The installation of officers of the Zion Royal Arch Chapter for the current year, with the exception of two who are now absent from China, took place on Thursday afternoon, the First and Third Principals being installed by M. E. Comp. Cornelius Thorne, P.Z., while most of the other officers were invested by M. E. Comp. Starkey, the newly installed Z. Among those present were M. E. Comps. J. I. Miller, P.Z., C. H. Dallas, P.Z., T. W. Kingsmill, P.Z., J. M. Cory, P.Z., C. M. Donaldson, P.Z., A. Johnson, Z., and L. Moore, P.Z. The following are the officers:—

M. E. Comp. R. D. Starkey	...M. E. Z.
Comp. R. A. Gubbay	H.
" A. P. Macgregor	J.
M. E. Com. T. W. Kingsmill	...Treas.
Comp. G. M. Hart	Scribe E.
"	Scribe N.
" F. M. Gratton	P. S.
" J. MacMorran	1st Asst. S.
" Rev. F. R. Smith	2nd Asst. S.
" C. Merritt	Janitor.

Comp. F. L. Mashall had been appointed to the office of Scribe N.; but as he has left China, another Companion will be appointed in his place.

It will be seen from Reuter's telegram that the Oxford and Cambridge Boat Race has been won by Cambridge by a quarter of a length. The following is the list of wins since 1840:—

1841 ..Camb.	1861...Oxford	1874...Camb.
1842...Oxford.	1862...Oxford	1875...Oxford.
1845...Camb.	1863...Oxford	1876...Camb.
1846...Camb.	1864...Oxford	1877...d. heat.
1849...Camb.	1865...Oxford	1878...Oxford.
1849...Oxford.	1866...Oxford	1879...Camb.
1852...Oxford.	1867...Oxford	1880...Oxford.
1854...Oxford.	1868...Oxford	1881...Oxford.
1856...Camb.	1869...Oxford	1882...Oxford.
1857...Oxford.	1870...Camb.	1883...Oxford.
1858...Camb.	1871...Camb.	1884...Camb.
1859...Oxford.	1872...Camb.	1885...Oxford.
1860...Camb.	1873...Camb.	1886...Camb.

Some days ago, an article appeared in the *Hu Pao* with reference to the Chinese navy, and specially mentioning one of the vessels, which it appears, broke down in the river, and then ran ashore. The Viceroy at Nanking saw the statement in the *Hu Pao* and sent an official down to Shanghai to have the Chinese officers of the vessel discharged. This having been done, some of them threatened to give the Editor a thrashing, but on the day named on which they were to do this, they did not put in an appearance. It is pretty generally known, however, that when a native fixes the date on which he threatens to commit some act of lawlessness, when the day arrives he does not carry out his intentions.

Mr. Olsen has taken some instantaneous views of the Volunteers as they marched up the Nanking Road on Tuesday. The views were produced under considerable difficulties, the camera being placed in the upper room of a tea shop, the floor of which was not very firm, and although each view was taken in the short space of 1-12th of a second, there was a slight movement of the camera, owing to people crossing the floor. Consequently two of the views are hazy. The third has been taken very well. The *Amoy Gazette* reports two sharp shocks of earthquake at that port on the morning of the 26th March.

The D.D.R. steamer *Hesperia*, which left Hamburg on the 10th March, has been in collision with another vessel, and is now at Suez for repairs.

The *Daily Press* mentions with reference to the *Hesperia* that that vessel was in collision with the *Gusur*.

The Agent of the P. & O. Co. informs us that the *Venetia* arrived at Yokohama at 9 p.m. on Tuesday (30th) and was docked at noon on Wednesday (31st ult.)

One of those malicious reports, of which we have had several lately, was spread in the Settlements on Saturday afternoon, that the *Taku*, which left here the same day, had run into and sunk the *Toonan*. The rumour, we are glad to be able to state, is without foundation, and is known to have been originated, out of spite, by some Chinese shippers whose cargo had been shut out from the *Taku*.

The *Leeyuen*, which has been recently under extensive repairs, went on a trial trip on Tuesday, but had the misfortune to get ashore in the river. She floated on Thursday morning, and is now alongside Hunt's Wharf taking in some heavy gun pivots and Krupp guns for Port Arthur.

The wreck of a junk is sunk to the South of the Amherst Rocks, and two of the masts are above water. One of the pilots reports seeing a lot of wreckage.

The British steamer *Rosa* arrived at Singapore on the 17th March from Bally, having on board the captain and crew of the British ship *Golden Fleece* recently wrecked in the Java Sea, while on a voyage from Glasgow to Shanghai.

The Hongkong papers bring news of the loss of another Chinese gunboat on the Pescadores. No particulars have been received as to the name of the gunboat, or as to how the accident happened, but it is known that she has broken up completely. Her loss coming so soon after that of the *Sui Tsing* confirms the common belief that these misfortunes never come singly.

Mr. Wilde, late chief officer of the *Seewo*, has been appointed to the command of the *Pechili*.

The watermark at Hankow on the 2nd instant, was 15 feet 4 inches and stationary.

On Thursday night a thief was caught in the possession of some sandalwood which he had stolen from a godown. It appears the thief got the wood by tearing out the iron bars in the air holes of one of the China Merchants Company's godowns at their Central Wharf, and then inserting his arm or a piece of bamboo till he seized the sandalwood.

The Mixed Court was closed on Friday, as the Magistrate was required by the new Tao-t'ai to guide him to the various Consulates.

The first three prizes in the Manila Lottery this month have fallen to Nos. 25,463, 12,233, and 16,776 respectively.

The entries for the Spring Race Meeting closed on Saturday. Mr. Barnes Dallas, Secretary of the Race Club, has kindly supplied us with the numbers of entries for each race, as follows:—

The Hart Legacy Cup	 16
The Criterion Stakes	 13
The Griffins' Plate	 55
The Cathay Cup	 24
The Jockey Cup	 17
The Kiang-su Plate	 17
The Racing Stakes	 28
The Tao-t'ai's Cup	 5
The Chu-ka-za Cup	 22
The Shanghai Derby	 37
The Ladies' Purse	 18
The Race Club Cup	 16
The Concordia Cup	 35
The Tattle Cup	 22
The Shanghai Stakes	 96
The Roadsters' Plate	 50
The Grand Stand Stakes	 35
The Great Northern Plate	 28
The Manchu Stakes	 49
The Chau-shang-kiuk Cup	 32
The Yangtze Stakes	 19
The Convolution Cup	 28
The Grand National Steeplechase	 11

Total amount of Entrances Fees Tls. 4,385, against Tls. 3,395 last Spring.

The French may be congratulated on the promptness with which they have taken advantage of the Treaty with China to establish themselves in Loanki, one of the places on the border of Yunnan selected for trade. French merchants will have the same advantages there as at the Treaty Ports.

The steamers have commenced to return from Newchwang, the *Cito* having put in an appearance here on Sunday and the *Chefoo* on Monday morning. The *Cito* left here on 19th February on a voyage to Nagasaki, Yokohama, Kobe, Nagasaki, Tientsin, Chefoo, Newchwang and back to Shanghai. She left Chefoo on the 25th March and arrived off the entrance of the Newchwang river on the 26th; there was no ice to be seen, but as she could not get a pilot, she did not proceed till the 28th. She crossed the Bar, the third vessel in, and left again for Shanghai on the 31st March. Off Shawsichan, she had to anchor from 4 p.m. on Saturday to 6 a.m. on Sunday owing to dense fogs. She left the *Touman* which had been ashore on the Bar going up, at Newchwang. The *Chefoo* left Shanghai on 12th March for Tientsin and then went across in ballast to Newchwang on the 17th, but when she got to within forty miles of Fort Head, she fell in with ice and turned back, arriving at Chefoo on the 20th. She left again on the 22d and arrived off the entrance of the Newchwang river on the 24th, being the first steamer at Newchwang this year. She was followed by the *Askington*. The river was full of ice. She left again on the 31st March, and was the first vessel to get away.

A new addition to the Shanghai Yacht Club was launched yesterday afternoon, from the building yard between the German and Japanese Consulates. The new yacht is the property of Dr. Macleod.

On Saturday night, a servant employed at the Temperance Hall was caught stealing some meat from the premises. The meat was hanging up, and the thief put it up his capacious sleeves and was going away with it, when he was stopped and given into custody. Yesterday morning, he was taken to the Mixed Court, but the Magistrate dismissed the case, because the defendant said he was going to hang the meat up, notwithstanding that he was walking in the opposite direction to which the rest of the meat was, when he was stopped.

The Kwangtung Government is taking steps at last to allow the mineral resources of the province to be worked. According to Mr. Ho A-mei, it has opened an Office of Mines in Canton, from which mining licences may be obtained, and in a few weeks there were already fifty applicants for licences. Mr. Ho A-mei himself has started two mining companies, each with a capital of \$100,000, and has further acquired rights with respect to an iron and galena mine at Chéng Fa, about a day's journey from Canton, and a gold mine at Yung San. It is hardly to be supposed that more than a small proportion of the mines that will be opened in consequence of this new departure, will pay: but they will afford work to the teeming population of Kwangtung, and, according to Mr. Ho A-mei, retain at home in comfort some of those who would otherwise have gone off to find a cold welcome in America or Australia. The formal opening of the Tai Yu Shan silver-lead mine, one of Mr. Ho A-mei's enterprises, took place on the 28th of March, in the presence of a fair gathering of English and Chinese residents of Hongkong. The most roseate predictions were hazarded as to the future of the mine, the engineer stating that a discovery had already been made at the shaft which placed its success beyond all doubt.

Ang Tai-duk, the alleged murderer of Captain and Mrs. Wickersham in California, has committed suicide in Victoria gaol, Hongkong, to which he had been remanded pending the arrival from California

of the evidence necessary for his extradition.

The *Jiji Shimpō* announces that the Russian Minister at Seoul has asked the Korean Government for permission to construct an overland telegraph line from Seoul to Vladivostok. This would give us another alternative route to Europe, in the event of accident to the Nagasaki-Vladivostok cables. Whether Korea will like to see a Russian expedition entering the country from the North, on the pretext of the desire to construct a telegraph line, is another question.

An account of certain occurrences on board the German brig *Else* having been published, we are requested to give the following statement of what really took place:—In the account alluded to it is said that the conduct of the Japanese officials was "peculiar," but if this was case there must have been some misunderstanding of each other between the officer of the Japanese gunboat and the Captain of the *Else*, and this was probably owing to imperfect interpretation on the part of a Japanese woman who was on board the brig. To begin with, it was the cry of the injured sailors for help that attracted the attention of the man-of-war *Seiki*, and it was only then, but not till then, that the signal "mutiny" was hoisted. The readiness of the Japanese naval officers to render assistance in case of need may be proved from the fact, that as soon as the Commander of the *Seiki* saw something was wrong on board the brig, he at once ordered a boat to be lowered and sent it with an officer twice to the German brig, offering to do what was required. However, when the officer got on board the brig everything was quiet, the sailors were not at all mutinous. One of them complained that he had been shot in the arm by the Master of the brig, and another that he had been struck on his head with an axe by the boatswain as he was coming out of the fore-castle, after the Master had splashed water over them. The men were not only not in a position to make a disturbance, but they were so terrified by the conduct of the Master that they asked to be taken on shore. In fact, the naval officers who went on board the brig thought that the circumstances did not justify them to assist in the putting the men in irons, especially without the order of the Commander of the man-of-war. It has been stated that "a guard was asked for from the man-of-war, as Captain Brinckmen feared that the mutineers might become violent, but that this was flatly refused." But in fact no such request was ever made to the commander of the *Seiki* or any other officer, or if it was ever made, it was not so conveyed to these officers by the interpreter. Again, it is stated that the gunboat was next requested to stop near the *Else* until morning, but that the reply was that the "*Seiki*" was already too near for safety." No such request was ever made, nor such a reply either. On the contrary, the naval officer told the Master of the *Else* that he would be glad to render any further assistance in case of need.

According to Messrs. Thos. Watson & Co.'s last circular the exportation of tea from Calcutta to the United Kingdom during the month of January last was 6,412,470 lbs. as compared with 5,078,433 lbs. in the corresponding month of 1885, and 5,273,106 lbs. in January, 1884. The export to Australia was 282,097 lbs. against 134,290 lbs. in the same month of the previous year, and 68,440 lbs. in January, 1884.

Kuhlow's German Trade Review for 17th February last has the following remarks on the recent bi-metallist agitation in the Reichstag; and they contain a useful summary of the position:—"The Bi-metallist party in the Reichstag had a succession of field-days last week. For three days the double standard question formed the sub-

ject of debate—in which the best feeling was not at all times displayed—and the result was a victory for this party. The resolution adopted does not prescribe any definite course of action. It merely calls on the Government to instigate a careful enquiry into the whole question, and then to report to the Reichstag on the result. It is easy to understand how the Bi-metallist party has scored this success. For one thing, the Reichstag was not asked to vote on any clear decision one way or the other, but only to sanction the investigation of the question, and this no doubt led many Deputies to give their support to the resolution who would have opposed a more definite proposition. Then it is not to be overlooked that there is a considerable section of Deputies who are convinced that agriculture will only be placed in a satisfactory position when the principle of a double standard has been adopted. So far as the action taken by the Reichstag is concerned, there is no reason to anticipate any harm from it. Even if the requested inquiry takes place there is little likelihood of the Bi-metallists having their way.

When considering the great scramble for the power of making railways and leading money to China, an observer writes:—"It is interesting to notice how great events do sometimes proceed from trifling causes. Here, for example, are the greatest nations of the world marshalling their financial forces for the invasion of China and threatening a veritable battle of giants on the muddy banks of the Peiho; "Syndicates" as they are called with Bismarck's endorsement, French "combinations" with all the weight of their government at their back, and American "rings," with President Cleveland's safe-conduct. On a moderate estimate these three combined represent on their own showing a force of 100 millions sterling. And the whole of this immense balloon has been inflated from one very small wind-bag. A paragraph or letter in a foreign newspaper printed in China, indited without the smallest regard to truth or even probability, indiscreetly copied and recopied from one newspaper to another, travelling twice round the world *vires acquiescunt eundo* until it bloomed out in imposing articles in the principal German newspapers, then in the London *Times*, then telegraphed in extenso to New York, and so back to China, has raised all this immense cloud of dust. It must be "nuts" to the author of the fiction to see the great financiers with their gold spectacles stepping one after another from the mail steamers on to the wharves, summoned at his bidding from the ends of the earth like obedient spirits answering the call of a magician. And what must be the feelings of these great folks themselves when they are shown, as they no doubt will be, the paltry personality which is the *fons et origo* of their world renowned expeditions!

The Viceroy of India's speech at Mandalay on the 17th of February last, at a grand dinner given to the Heads of Departments, sets all doubts at rest as to the future position of Upper Burma. Even after the Queen's proclamation of 1st January, it was still uncertain whether the Viceroy might not decide to put one of Theobaw's numerous relations on the throne, and govern the country through him as a "protected" state. Lord Dufferin however, after going himself to inspect the situation, has come to a definite conclusion, and Upper Burma is declared to be "for ever annexed to the British Empire." The Viceroy announces that "the country will be at once placed under the supreme and direct administrative control of British officers, whose experience and energy will enable them to repair in a few years the loss and injury entailed upon it by the misgovernment of its former rulers . . . and to raise it to the same high level of individual comfort and commercial prosperity as is enjoyed by the inhabitants of Lower Burma."

Miscellaneous Articles.**HONGKONG.**

THE Chamber of Commerce of Hongkong discussed the fortification schemes at the last General Meeting, when Mr. Francis, Q.C., made some very pertinent comments on the manner on which it is proposed to expend large sums of money on the defences of the Colony; and thereby drew on himself the indignation of one of the unofficial Members of Council. Mr. Francis said, in effect, let us know how this large sum is to be expended. Nothing could be more reasonable, but the Member of Council thought that would be supervising the work of the officer commanding the Royal Engineers, and a proposal of that sort would be regarded as an insult by the officer of that Corps in charge of the works. We should say there was a very urgent necessity for supervising the work of any officer who should object to the supervision of his work by those who were going to pay for it; but when the sensibilities of officials are concerned no one expects a member of Council in Hongkong to be reasonable. It is well known to many who do not read the Hongkong newspapers that the fortifications and defences of Hongkong would have been in a much more forward state than they are, but for the means taken some twelve months ago by unofficial members of Council to burke the public discussion of Sir George Bowen's impolicy. At that time the indignation of the general Hongkong public against the inaction of Sir Bowen was so great, that a movement to hold a public meeting to protest against it was initiated by several independent members of the community, and would have been carried into effect but for the opposition of non-official Members of Council, who would not hear of a public meeting, because the Governor would not like it. This they privately urged on those who were getting up the public meeting, while at the same time they, and a portion of the press which flatters them, were publicly posing as indignant at St. George Bowen's conduct. The proposed meeting was abandoned; but those who know the means by which this was done, and who have since seen the members of Council who procured this stifling of the expression of public opinion lauded as public spirited and independent, are amused by the way in which Colonial history is made.

What is wanted in Hongkong is a stout public opinion that would not care for Government House and the officials, and would resent any attempt to hoodwink the community as it has constantly been hoodwinked and humbugged. It is an old game with those ambitious of being Members of Council to be as unpleasant as possible to Governors while hoping for promotion, and as obedient as lapdogs to them after it has been obtained.

Such ways are not peculiar to Hongkong, they are practised in London, New York, and Paris, and many a politician has owed his place to the art. But in a small community like that of Hongkong the subservience of the Members of the Legislative Council to the wishes or likings of the Governor does an immense deal of harm to the public and the social spirit of the residents, especially when the Governor happens to be an unwise man. A system of give and take comes into play between the official and the non-official members of Council. Some measures are passed which ought to be opposed, because the Governor is determined they shall become law, or some of the Heads of Departments think them necessary. As a set off the non-official members may be allowed to amend or even defeat unimportant proposals of the Government. In those measures which affect the business interests of any large section of the merchants self interest makes the non-official members vigilant; and very properly too. But even in such important matters as the finances of the Colony the officials are able to do pretty much as they please. At one of the last meetings of the Council the Colonial Secretary stated that the Finance Committee had unanimously recommended the payment of the additional vote of £60,375 for the defences of the island, on the strict understanding that this vote shall be final. Now the Finance Committee, which figures before an innocent public in the Colony and elsewhere, as an executive within the Council, is nothing more or less than the Legislative Council itself—minus the Governor—sitting in secret, with closed doors, and with the Press excluded. The Members of Council who defend this jumbo do so on the ground of its convenience—matters can be talked over quietly—and in such petty things as considering an application for an increase of salary, for instance, closed doors may be sometimes desirable. But can anything be said in support of a way by which such important matters as this sixty thousand pound bill for defences being decided in a conclave, where the officials are determined, as they are sure to have been, to get their own way, and the non-officials have the fear of governmental and official powers before their eyes, and no hope of a lavish use of the stereotyped flattery and praise in the newspapers, to encourage them to the semblance of opposition. The Finance Committee came into existence some years ago, and we are told was never meant to fulfil the functions it now discharges. The Attorney General of Hongkong has declared it to be thoroughly unconstitutional; Mr. Francis Q.C. said at the last meeting of the Chamber of Commerce that it is opposed to the Charter and instructions of the Colony, and Mr. Ryrie, a member of Council, stated that he agreed, generally, with these views. It appears that the last named gentle-

man had sometimes made known his disapproval of the Committee but had not found support from his non-official colleagues. A healthy public opinion would have put an end to this Finance Committee years ago, and probably have saved the community from having to pay £60,000 now, in addition to £50,000 already paid, with no assurance that further demands will not be made.

AFFAIRS IN THE SOUTH-EAST OF EUROPE.

THE orders to the Russian fleet to go to Smyrna look very like Russia taking an independent position, which means her acting against Bulgaria and Turkey, and being neutral, if not actively supporting Greece. It would seem as if a war in the south-east of Europe was near, and recent telegrams have somewhat prepared us for the course which Russia has taken. Probably her co-operation with the other Powers was never genuine, but meant to give time to herself and Greece to prepare for hostilities, unless they could obtain their objects by diplomacy. Turkey, Greece, Bulgaria, Roumelia and Servia are now armed to the teeth; and in the smaller kingdoms, and possibly also in Turkey, the people and their rulers are burning for a fight, and all have ambitions which they are determined to try and satisfy. The best hope for peace is in the position of Austria. The animosities between her German, Slav, Czech, and Magyar populations are so great as to make it necessary for the Cabinet of Vienna to do everything to avert a war in which her integrity might be jeopardized, and by which her hold on Bosnia and Herzegovina would certainly be imperilled. When reckoning the effect which the policy of Austria may be expected to have in the south-east of Europe, it should be remembered that she did little to restrain Servia a few months ago, if she did not actually encourage and aid her against the Bulgarians. Still, her interests are so greatly on the side of peace that we may hope she will do everything to prevent a war, which might have the most serious results for her. In view of the position which Austria now occupies, and the conflicting politics of the nationalities under her sway, an account of their numbers will be interesting. There were in the Austro-Hungarian Empire in 1882:—

Germans.....	10 millions.
Slavonic races	16½ "
Roumanians	3 "
Magyars	6 "

and about a million and a half of other races.

The *Times* said in a number published early in February that 'whatever may be the cause, a check has undoubtedly been given to the progress of the Eastern difficulty towards a peaceful solu-

tion.' The Powers were not marching together with the same assured step as a few days before; there was still uneasiness in foreign capitals, and some of this feeling was attributable to the change of Government in England. "Lord Salisbury's policy," it said, "was known and understood. Its firmness and sagacity had produced a great effect in Europe, and round it had rallied everything that made for peace. The policy of the new Cabinet is an unknown quantity, and, although Lord Rosebery's appointment to the Foreign Office has prevented the absolute dismay that would otherwise have been felt, Europe cannot forget that the Prime Minister is ultimately responsible for foreign policy, and that he is the same who headed the last Liberal Administration with its disastrous failures." The same article states that Mr. Gladstone, while advising the Greeks to submit to the injunctions of the Great Powers, is reported to have promised that they will be "indemnified in the future." If true, nothing is more likely than such a promise to encourage the Greeks in their demands for territory, as people like them have not much faith in the future, when there seems a probability of their demands being obtained in the present. It is very much to be feared that the advent of power of Mr. Gladstone has had the usual effect of encouraging Russia, and the turbulent small kingdoms of the Peninsula.

BI-METALLISM.

MR. GUILDFORD S. MOLESWORTH, of the Indian Service, lately delivered an address on bi-metallism before the Bombay Chamber of Commerce, in which he advocated a return to the double standard, and controverted the generally received opinion, that the great increase in the Indian export trade in recent years was owing to low rates of exchange, maintaining that it was "wholly and solely due to the extension of State railways and to the influence of low freights." He described bi-metallism as the method of compensating the standard of currency by the adoption of two metals—gold and silver jointly, at a fixed ratio,—either metal to be a legal tender at the option of the debtor. To the demonetization of silver which began twelve or fourteen years ago, Mr. Molesworth and his school attribute the fall in prices, through a concurrent appreciation of gold, and much, if not all the depression which trade has been suffering from during late years. An examination of statistics had showed Mr. Molesworth that the prices of commodities and silver had remained on the same average level as before the depreciation caused by the appreciation of gold, with the exception of those trade fluctuations in certain articles induced by

over production. Gold alone had appreciated. A return of gold to par—that is to 15½ compared with silver—would not, as many thought, decrease wheat exports from India, would not enable the American to get more gold for his wheat, and consequently to compete successfully with India. "A return of gold to par with silver would raise the prices in the same degree as that to which appreciation had depressed them." Even if that were true it would not improve matters for merchants or consumers. The cost of freights, ships, money, would rise, while rapid communication of all kinds would keep the home markets as fully supplied with commodities as they are now. Trade would be conducted on the same narrow margins of profit as it is at present, and it would have to pass through a period of great depression while markets were adjusting themselves to the new conditions of things. The Chairman of the Bombay Chamber of Commerce put this with great clearness. Of the effect which low exchanges had had on the Indian wheat trade, he said: "while in other countries they heard reports of wheat-producing districts falling into disuse, in India the area of wheat cultivation was increasing. In those countries where land was going out of cultivation rent and labour must fall in value till things could re-adjust themselves on the basis of their gold currency. Then India would have to enter the competition afresh; but in the meantime there was not the slightest doubt that they were getting an immense advantage. Supposing on Tuesday, owing to the action of bi-metallism in Europe, the price of the rupee were to rise, there would be a great diminution in the export till the prices should re-adjust themselves to the new order of things."

It will be seen that there was nothing new in the arguments used by Mr. Molesworth. What he said about bi-metallism has been often said before, and it would be impossible to impart any novelty to a subject that has been so often discussed in recent years. But it is different when he proceeded to show that the expansion of the Indian exports, and particularly of wheat, was "wholly and solely" due to the extension of railways. That is a view which has only lately been generally urged by bi-metallists, and in our opinion while it is to be admitted that the extension of railways has largely helped the increase in the Indian trade it cannot be said that it has done all. Low exchange and cheap freights by land and sea have been the chief agents in creating the wheat trade, and extending others, while the fiscal policy of the United States and the maintenance of the Bland Bill have rendered powerful assistance. Mr. Molesworth states that in 1872, the year before the monetary disturbance began, "there were only 254 miles of State railways open for traffic, while in 1884 there were 6,252 miles, besides an increase of 1,403

miles of lines belonging to companies. Since 1873 rates for carrying wheat long distances had been reduced over half, making in some cases a difference of seven to eight shillings a quarter." But admitting this, it has chiefly been the lessened value of money and cheap freights of all kinds which have enabled Indian merchants to create their large wheat trade, and as an appreciation of silver would raise the cost of all these, it is doubtful whether the cultivators in India would be able to produce wheat to sell it at a profit at the prices which merchants would then be able to offer. Very probably also the railway companies would be compelled to raise their rates to compensate them for the low tariff which the large trade has enabled them to work upon. American wheat would come in as a powerful competitor with Indian kinds, and probably deprive the latter of its market. Bi-metallists say that the increased cost of produce in the East and elsewhere would be compensated by an advance in prices in the Home markets, but that is, to say the least, doubtful, and the dangers which the double standard would introduce, make its adoption too risky. For one thing it would make Great Britain dependent for its chief food supplies on the United States, which by the development of their industries are no longer obliged to purchase our manufactures in return. We should therefore have to pay cash, which is not always convenient. For another thing it would raise the cost of all prime articles of consumption in England, and the competition of foreigners makes it certain that our manufacturers would be unable to give an increase of wages, equivalent to the increased cost of living, to their artisans. The change in the conditions of trade during the last fifteen or twenty years, by the abundance of capital, rapid and cheap communication, the opening up of new countries, the transfer of trades and production from one country to another, are among the chief causes which have so greatly altered the commerce of the world as to make the return to the prices of commodities which prevailed before 1874 an impossibility. The fall in the value of silver has doubtless had much to do with the decline in prices of commodities; but the chief agent has been the action of a natural law. Trade all over the world has been trying to adjust itself to new conditions, and what is wanted is that more time and perfect freedom should be given to complete the process. So far as we can see, cheap money has done immense good to the Indian people. Bi-metallism would check the prosperity of India, and even if a bi-metallic league were formed among the great nations there is nothing like certainty as to its continuance. The Bland Bill is a clumsy way of doing in America what bi-metallists assert their system would effect all the world over—keeping gold and silver at a fixed ratio; and we have been told that it is neces-

sary to maintain it in the interests of the farmers of the United States, whose grain, it is said by the silver-men in America, is by means of it able to compete with the Indian products. But that assertion is beginning to be questioned in America, for the *New York Commercial Bulletin* said lately of this Act "The artificial stimulus to our over-production of silver, furnished by our compulsory coinage, is the prime cause of the decline in price, which has taken 20 cents off the value of every bushel of wheat raised in this country. And yet the agricultural sections are counted on to keep up this silver glut by virtually protecting the producers." The moral of this is that all attempts to control prices by laws are bad.

THE COURT OF CONSULS AND KEROSENE CARGOES.

At a meeting of Consuls held last week a series of amendments on the Harbour Regulations proposed by the Harbour Master were considered and disposed of. All were approved with the exception of one to Regulation No. 14, regarding the portion of the harbour in which ships laden with kerosene oil may be berthed and discharged. That Regulation is to the following effect: "Vessels arriving with kerosene oil or petroleum on board as cargo shall be berthed on the Footing side of the 9th Section of the Harbour and must remain there until all such cargo has been discharged." The alteration which the Harbour Master proposed should be made in this was, to allow kerosene-laden vessels to berth opposite to No. 3 Section and to discharge into godowns in that Section. Everyone who takes a glance at the opposite side of the river will see that to allow kerosene oil to be landed in Section 8 as well as in the contiguous Section would not increase the risk of danger to the Settlements. As a matter of fact, kerosene oil had been stored for years in the godowns in Section 8, and no one had felt uneasy, nor had any authority ever interfered with the practice. But the majority of the Consuls have now decided that the Harbour Regulation No. 14 must remain as at present. We understand that one of the chief reasons which led the Consuls to this conclusion was, that if they now permitted oil-laden vessels opposite to No. 8 section, they might by and by be asked to allow them to berth opposite sections nearer the Settlements. Supposing the Consuls were afterwards asked to approve further changes in the Harbour Regulations in that direction, would it not be best, would it not be expected of a fair-minded deliberative body that it should determine each application of the kind on its merits, having the public interest alone in view, rather than by now laying down a hard and fast rule? In a port like this, with every prospect of an extended trade, to lessen or even to limit the facilities for berthing ships is certain to be detrimental to business. These

facilities ought to be increased wherever merchants desire that they should be, and the public interests would not thereby be endangered. There would be a general outcry if Chinese officials acted as the Consuls of Foreign Powers acted at their meeting last week; and the body have furnished a weapon to the obstructives in the North and elsewhere, which we shall be surprised if they do not use. It is of course known that conflicting interests in Wharf Companies have been actively at work among the Consular body, and it is said that the vote of last week was partly arrived at out of consideration for one of our local companies. We are persuaded that this was not the case, and that the Consuls refused to sanction the proposal of the Harbour Master solely on public grounds. That they made a mistake has no doubt already been perceived by some of them. In a place of the importance of Shanghai everything that increases the means of doing business rapidly and easily must be encouraged, and so also ought everything which tends to lessen the charges on business. The more places there are in which such an inflammable article as kerosene oil can be safely dealt with, the greater facility there will be in working that branch of our trade; and it cannot be denied that competition lessens charges and the cost of carrying on business. Nobody ever dreamt of there being any danger to us in kerosene being stored in "Shaw's godowns" before the meeting of Consuls resolved to refuse to sanction the proposal of the Harbour Master. The misinformation, or the want of information, which led them to the course they have taken, must have had a very strong effect in their judgments to prevent them perceiving that they have opened up questions the settlement of which may very greatly affect the authority of their body. It will certainly be a matter of regret if the result of the action of the Consuls last week should be to circumscribe the authority which upon the whole they have satisfactorily exercised. But that may come to pass. The Consuls of the Powers whose subjects have the greatest commercial interests here cannot view with any satisfaction the fact that the Consuls of Austria, Sweden and Norway, Spain, and those other nations which have scarcely any trade, or none at all, and hardly a resident of their nationality beyond those attached to their Consulates, shall have the same voting power at a meeting of Consuls as the representatives of Great Britain, the United States, France, and Germany. It is an outrage on the fitness of things that it should be so, and dangerous to the common interest that the votes of the Consuls of countries which have only a political interest in Shanghai, if they have any interest at all, should count the same as the vote of the Consul of Great Britain or the United States. That these Consuls

should exercise their power cannot fail to lessen the weight which the decisions of the whole body should carry with the Chinese officials. In the year 1884 only one Austrian and one Swedish sailing vessel, and no steamer under either flag, were entered at the Custom House, and the trade of these nations cannot have been very different in 1885. But besides limiting the trading capabilities of the port, by refusing their sanction to the Harbour Master's proposal, the Consuls have done what may bring about a withdrawal of the privilege which has long been given to allow kerosene-laden vessels to berth and discharge at Tangkadoo. They have done so for many years, and no one has felt any alarm for the safety of the shipping which they passed through. Yet the safety of the shipping about No. 8 Section was we understand used as an argument to induce the Consuls to refuse to sanction the Harbour Master's proposal. The safety of the shipping or of the Settlements would be no more endangered by allowing vessels with kerosene cargoes to berth on the Hongkew side, opposite No. 8 Section, than it was endangered last month when the *Emma T. Crowell*, an American ship, passed through the harbour to discharge her oil cargo at Tangkadoo—where she now is,—as dozens or hundreds of vessels have done before. There is no danger in either case. The Consuls have placed themselves in what we may mildly call an awkward position, and the sooner they get themselves out of it the better.

THE SHIPPING INTEREST.

The Shipping Interest in England has of late been concerting measures for its protection against various more or less inimical forces. A great Federation among the owners of the north has been formed, and Shipping Chambers have been stirred into action in order to be prepared to resist the Board of Trade and all its works. The Shipping Federation has chiefly in view the improvement and simplification of charter-parties and bills of lading, and what are vaguely described as "kindred purposes," which we may translate into taking every advantage of unwary shippers which the law makes possible. Something was said at the great meeting in Newcastle, at which the Federation was inaugurated, of loftier aims, but those were not specified in the resolutions, and we may wait until they have developed themselves before saying anything about them. An amiable nobleman was elected to the Presidency of the Federation, and to him will doubtless be committed the cultivation of the loftier aims, while more practical men take care that, what the organ of the shipping interest calls the "Plimsollian craze" does not lead the government into legislation, the effect of which would be to injure the general interests of ship-owners. No doubt Mr. Plimsoll was a fanatical enthusiast, but it is often by

such men that good is done in the world, and when he had shown evils which legislation should remove, and nefarious practices in the fitting out of unseaworthy ships, it was for Parliament to give power to the law to punish the wrong doers. If to perfectly cool headed men of business the righting of wrongs in the world had been left, very little would have been done in that way. But there is no doubt that Mr. Chamberlain, when President of the Board of Trade, if he did not try to out-plimsoll Plimsoll went very near it, and consequently irritated the shipowners all over the kingdom, who, good and bad, stood shoulder to shoulder and defeated his shipping measure. To render the Federation more efficient an amalgamation is proposed between it and the Shipowners Institute, which comprizes the owners of the liners, sailing vessels, shipbuilders, engineers, underwriters, masters and officers, and, generally, all who are interested in the great shipping industry. With all these elements the amalgamated Society and Federation ought to be able to do good work, not only for themselves but for the public. The times are bad for shipowners, but they will best mend them by improving their ships and their working, and by treating the rest of the world fairly in every thing. The British shipowner is of the grumbling variety of the human species, and his peculiar gifts in that way have been very fully cultivated; but there is no doubt that for some time past there has been reason in his loud complainings. Freights have been very low and profits small, his competitors of other nations have been pampered by heavy subsidies, and his own government has irritated him by attempting legislation which he regards as vexations, uncalled for, and certain to injure him; if it was not intended by the Liberals, with whom shipowners generally have little affinity, for that purpose. His complaints were fully set forth by the Chairman of the Chamber of Shipping and others at the annual meeting and subsequent dinner in February last. Shipowners complain that they are threatened with measures which would deprive them of the freedom necessary to carry on their business satisfactorily, and at the same time have to contend with the Continental bounty system. The Chairman of the Peninsular and Oriental Company, however, did not think that British shipping would suffer much from that system, founding this opinion on the hope that it "could not be carried beyond a certain point without being destructive of the interests of other countries, and would lead up to the populations of those countries rising up against those who fostered such a system." We are afraid that it will take a long time for the populations of France, Germany, and Italy to see this, and in the meanwhile they will perceive the advantages which shipbuilding and the sea carrying trade

confer on large numbers of themselves, and will therefore support their Government and the capitalists interested in the bounty-supported lines. In another part of the same gentleman's speech a hint is given of something being under arrangement, at the time, among the members of all the shipping companies, similar to the Conference agreements which have done so much harm to China and Australian commerce. The depression of trade, he said, had, during the last few weeks, that is at the end of last year and the beginning of this, assumed an aggravated form, as far as the Indian trade was concerned, and all the shipping companies were doing their best to concert measures for bringing about a better state of affairs. There is something ominous in this sentence. But as far as India is concerned the endeavours to carry on "rings" for the maintenance of high freights have hitherto only injured those companies which entered into them, and they are not likely to meet with much success here. The Conference steamers, by maintaining freights above the level which the condition of trade justified, have undoubtedly assisted their opponents under the German flag, by diverting trade to the Continent which formerly went to England.

THE DEATH OF MR. FORSTER.

THE Right Honourable William Edward Forster, whose death we learn by telegram, was the only son of the late William Forster, who was for more than half a century a Minister of the Society of Friends, and was born at Bradpole in Devonshire on the 11th of July, 1818. His mother was a sister of Sir Thomas Fowell Buxton. After receiving his education at the Friends' School, Tottenham, he became a worsted manufacturer at Bradford, and was we think a partner in Fison and Forster up to the time of his death. During the famine in the years 1846-7 he went to Ireland and distributed a famine relief fund which had been raised by the Quakers, when his zeal and admirable organization attracted the attention of others who were engaged in the same work. At the general election of 1859 he stood for Leeds in the Liberal interest, and was defeated; but two years afterwards he was returned for Bradford and represented that town, and from November last one of its three divisions, ever since. But he did not do so without encountering severe and acrimonious opposition from a portion of the constituency, chiefly the political non-conformists who were offended by his advocacy of the 25th clause of the Education Act of 1870, and who brought forward against him a narrow-minded member of their own section of the Radical party. In 1874 Mr. Forster was, however, returned at the head of the poll, the Tories giving him their second votes. After filling some subordinate offices in the Government, Mr. Forster was appointed

Vice-President of the Council, and in this capacity had charge of the Education Act and afterwards of the Ballot Bill, and his temper and tact greatly assisted the passage of these measures through the House of Commons. When Mr. Gladstone abandoned the leadership of the Liberal Party after the general election in 1874, Mr. Forster was considered by many his most suitable successor, but the rancour of the section which had opposed him at the election continued unabated, and this, with the desire of others to be led by the Marquis of Hartington, caused him to withdraw his name. In a letter, addressed, we think, to Mr. Bright, he said that he could not undertake the office of leader even if chosen to do so at an approaching meeting of the Party, as it appeared clear to him he that would not receive general support. During the Disraeli Administration, he actively opposed their foreign policy, and on the return of Mr. Gladstone to power in 1880 he accepted office as Secretary to the Lord Lieutenant of Ireland. In this position he had the chief conduct of Irish affairs, and incurred the deadly hatred of the Nationalist party. Although he frequently received threatening letters his life was never actually attempted, but after the Phoenix Park murders it was discovered that a plot had been formed for his assassination. The imprisonment of Mr. Parnell and other leaders of the Land League occurred during his term of office, and the measures which he considered necessary for the government of Ireland failing to meet the approval of some of his colleagues, he, with Earl Cowper, the Lord Lieutenant, resigned in April, 1882. Since then he has been a private member of Parliament. Mr. Forster can scarcely be said to have attained the political position which was anticipated for him some fifteen years ago, but this has been chiefly owing to the claims to high office of other members of the Liberal Party. There is no doubt he was a man of much greater political ability than Lords Derby, Granville, or Kimberley, or placemen like Sir William Harcourt, all of whom have been Secretaries or State, but none of whom are held in such general estimation for statesmanship as he was. His appearance and manner of speaking were rather rough, if not uncouth, but his debating power was undoubted; while his honesty of purpose, and the moderation with which he advocated opinions, sometimes of an advanced description, made him a political power in the House. There have been very few who have during the last quarter of a century commanded the same influence among the best men of both political parties. A portion of the non-conformists treated him ungenerously, the Nationalists hated him for the firmness he had shown in Irish affairs, but the great bulk of the Liberals and the Tories held him in honour. Mr. Forster ceased to be a

member of the Society of Friends some years ago, and has never since identified himself with any Church. On one occasion seventeen or eighteen years since he said in the course of a speech in the House, that he wished with all his heart he could see his way to become a member of the Church of England; and the honest passion with which he spoke made a deep impression on his hearers. He was a strong advocate for colonial confederation, and showed all his life a deep interest in India and other possessions of the Crown, and on all occasions defended what he considered the rights of their native inhabitants. He married in 1850 a daughter of Dr. Arnold, and adopted one of her relatives as his son and heir.

THE ENGLISH-MAIL PAPERS.

THE political papers in the *Saturday* are smart; those in the *Spectator* dull; and those in the *Pall Mall Budget* examples of the decadence which that journal has lately suffered. The first article in the *Saturday* is on Mr. Gladstone's third Administration and has some strictures on the gift of office to such men as Mr. Jesse Collings and Mr. Broadhurst, whose only qualifications, if such a term can be used, are that they have been successful agitators. A short article called 'Freedom versus Patronage,' apropos of a letter of Mr. Walter Besant to the *Times*, on the folly of some well-meaning zealots for temperance, who have refused their support to a great playground, surrounded by libraries, reading rooms and lecture rooms which the Beaumont Trustees are about to institute in the East End of London, and where it is proposed to allow visitors to get a glass of beer, among other refreshments. The *Saturday* supports Mr. Besant's views, and quotes the following from his letter—which we may remark in passing has an application to other places besides the East End. 'The London workingman if he is to look on this place as entirely his place of recreation, will insist on being treated as a free and rational being, able to run alone, and being fettered by no grandmotherly legislation.' To which the *Saturday* adds:—There is a vast deal too much condescension about the way in which some fine ladies and gentlemen provide amusement for the poorer classes. That is quite true; and it is extraordinary how little repeated failures—such as Seamen's Homes and Recreation Rooms have incurred—have taught well-meaning people that their efforts to give amusement and improvement to men who work hard most of their time, must be such as will attract the real men, the ordinary, quite common men whom we meet and see, and not the ideal or ought-to-be people who exist mainly in Reports of enthusiastic societies. 'Fishponds' is a most excellent and entertaining account of pisciculture in the past, as an introduction to other papers on the same subject. 'A Feast and a Fray,' founded on an old French Morality, 'La Condamnacion de Banquet,' is a gossip about former hours of eating and the fare, from about 1,500 to recent times. It opens with an account of Henry the Eighth's good looking sister who at sixteen married the good King Louis the Twelfth of France, then supposed to be either fifty-two or fifty-six years old, who made her husband adopt late hours, and by these and other changes which she introduced into his life, killed him in three months. The good King changed all his ways, for 'whereas he used to dine at eight he agreed to dine at noon, and whereas he was wont to go to bed at eight he often did not retire till midnight.' The *Morality* is full of information,

the *Saturday*, remarks about the food, meals, cookery, and table service of four hundred years ago. The bills of breakfast and dinner given in the *Morality* are curious:—

The first meal of the day, the breakfast, consists of a pasty, plums, bread, and red wine, both "vermilion" and "claret," dark and pale; and these are served either on a round or a square table. If plums were not in season, dried plums were to be used, or even waxen stage-plums "of the form and colour of Damascus"—damsons, in fact. On a stage are "instruments of diverse fashion"; they now play a minuet, which is danced by the company. Next comes dinner, served by an escuyer—no doubt an écuyer tranchant, that is, a carver—a cook, who is named Taillevent, after the celebrated maître-cocux (*cocus*), and two servitors, who come on with a part-song. But first the guests wash their hands, and a fool appears. The menu is fried fish, thick and clear soups (*brouet* and *potaiges*), which, when served, were poured over dry pastry, which was eaten with them. Our phrase "eating soup" is for the most part a mere survival of the past. Then there were meat-pies, prime mutton and beef, fat goslings, pork, venison, some entremets, and then the dessert, or 'issue' as it is here called. The laying of the table is also prescribed. It was to be feathery done (*gentement*) with "nappes, touailles (toiles, now our towels), serviettes"; the bread was to be cut up without crumbs. All the dishes were placed on a small table, and presented by the servants as they were called for. It proves to be a musical dinner, the servants breaking into glees and quartettes on the very slightest provocation.

'Lay on Macduff' is a clever, sarcastic, bantering attack on the Radicals in their position to Home Rule, and their readiness to adopt whatever measures Mr. Gladstone may propose, having the recent secession of Lord Fife from the Scottish Liberal Association as its text, and applying the moral to be derived from it at the expense of Sir W. Harcourt, Mr. Leake, and others. It is in the *Saturday's* best vein.

The *Spectator* has an excellent article on the 'Flabbiness of Public Opinion,' the beginning of which is:—

There is one danger in democracy which is not usually taken sufficiently into account, and that is, that by making public opinion on political questions omnipotent, you not unfrequently destroy the very conditions under which it is best formed. And something of the kind is visible at the present moment with regard to the leading topic of the day. Of course, in drawing-rooms and private societies the great issues involved in the Irish Question are canvassed very freely, and very eager opinions are expressed on one side or the other by those who are not obliged to commit themselves in public, and who are not likely, therefore, to transmit to any large body of electors the opinions which they have formed. But when men are compelled to announce responsibly the convictions they have formed, it is astonishing how anxious they are to reserve those opinions till they see how the general "stream of tendency," to use a celebrated expression for the god of the sceptic, is going. They are daunted by the inability of any but the most popular statesman to influence materially the huge mass called public opinion, and hence they wish to see what direction the exertion of influence is really possible, before they try their strength in exerting it. Even where men have spoken out with the most decisive voice on the spur of the moment, you will find then hesitating and "hedging," and uncertain on which tack to go, till the mighty stream has begun to declare itself; and so it happens that when the mighty stream does at last declare itself, it is determined very much more by the opinions of one or two great men blindly followed by all the rest, than by the diffused eagerness of the people at large. The very fact that there is no resisting the universal opinion when it is formed, prevents it too often from being formed in the old natural and wholesome way,—by the predominance of one manly conviction in one part of the country, of another in another, and by the open competition of these for the suffrages of the majority. On the contrary, men are so over

sensitive to the danger of being shunted off into a siding where they may have their opinions to themselves, but where they will certainly cease to affect any large number of their fellow-creatures, that they hesitate to express their real opinions, and at last almost cease to have any, for a man who has once got into the habit of forming his opinions by observing the drift of opinion in others, has ceased to contribute to the formation of public opinion altogether, and has become a mere voice swelling the majority, when he knows what the majority wishes.

This is in the spirit of Carlyle's gospel of manliness; but we fear that to try and get the present generation of public men to listen to it will be as useful as preaching to the wind. 'The New Ecclesiastical Movement in Scotland' deals in a fair spirit with the movements going on in that country for union among the Churches, and the position of the disestablishment question, and will amply repay perusal. So also will 'The Fear of Mobs'; one extract from which offers a suggestive contrast between the conduct of large assemblages in the East and in the West:—

Mobs in Asia appear not to be dreaded, and apparently are not dreadful. Kings never dream of prohibiting them, and the people are not in the least afraid of them. All over Asia, from Constantinople to Shanghai, vast mobs continually assemble for worship, for justification, for curiosity, and nobody interferes. The Kings do not apprehend revolt from them, the police do not look for riot, the people do not fear accident. A true "mob" of a hundred thousand persons is a constant phenomenon in India, and is as little regarded by the Magistrates as a crowd of a thousand would be here. What is the cause of that difference, which must have lasted for ages? We are wholly unable to answer the question, except by stating two facts familiar to every one who has seen such gatherings. A crowd in Asia, though liable to panic, does not catch impulses from its own members, as a crowd does in Europe, remaining more of a collection of separate individuals—the true explanation of the inferiority of Asiatic armies—and never hates its own social system. It may rush at the foreigner, never at its own Magistrates or rich classes. The will of the individual Asiatic is, we fancy, too strong to be broken by the hysteric impulse which a crowd communicates; but though that explanation may serve, it does but add one more to the half-intelligible differences which separate the white man from the remainder of humanity.

In Literary Articles and Reviews "The Art of Quotation" in the *Saturday* d-fends quoting when wisely done, and its opinion may be summed up in this sentence: 'This is the point—the style in which it's done'—makes quoting either tolerable or intolerable. The Reviews in this journal are many, but none of them require special notice. The *Spectator* has discovered a poet with genius in Mr. Walter Crane; and gives, judging from some long quotations, well deserved praise to a volume of sermons by Bishop Alexander of Derry, and also to a translation of Scherer's 'History of German Literature.' The novels noticed are 'Double Cunning,' by G. Manville Fenn, a writer whose early work led us to expect better things than he has yet done; the *Spectator* speaks well of this book. Ouida's 'Othmar' is analysed, and her merits are duly acknowledged while her faults are by no means passed by. Ouida has a strong passion for natural beauties, and an equally strong detestation of the changes which so called progress produces in them, and the critic says:—

The doctrine of original sin,—however much some of her stories may illustrate it,—certainly cannot hold good in "Ouida's" creed; she shows us everywhere the natural, inborn aspirations of noble souls struggling vainly against the sinful conventionalities and utilitarianism of society, which passes relentlessly over their lives, crushing out all their hopes and joy, and killing their love and innocence as surely and remorselessly as the foul water from the collieries defiles the pure mountain stream, and destroys the fish that swim in its

clear waters. Those who have seen the fair, wooded valleys of a mineral district suddenly invaded by railways, mines, and works, who remember the contented and religious peasantry that once dwelt in the land and loved it, and can compare their manners and morals with those of the rough hordes that crowd the endless rows of mean houses which spring up around the collieries, will appreciate "Ouida's" feeling concerning the first sharp shock of the contest between Nature and civilisation. The effect will be much the same on human nature as it is on the vales of the coal counties.

Is it not quite possible, we may ask, that such changes may by and by make life scarcely worth living to those of Ouida's temperament; but succeeding generations may, from the process by which human nature accommodates itself to the circumstances which surround it, lose that perception of the beautiful which Ruskin and Ouida possess, and find full contentment in factories, coalpits, and forges. The prospect may not be a pleasant one; but if the world is to become entirely utilitarian, it would surely be better that a love of Nature should disappear altogether, than that it should be a torment to any human beings. "Barbara Philpot" an historical novel, by Lewis Wingfield, seems to be heavy; and until the Day-break is called clever. Concerning novels, the librarian of the Birmingham Free Libraries has furnished the *Pall Mall Gazette* with a return of the most popular novels, based on the number of times the several books were issued from the central lending library. These are:—

"The Pickwick Papers," 339; "Bleak House," 361; "David Copperfield," 303; "Robinson Crusoe," 294; "Oliver Twist," 278; "Martin Chuzzlewit," 224; "The Mill on the Floss," 217; "The Arabian Nights," 211; "Ivanhoe," 200; "Vanity Fair," 195; Mrs. Wood's "East Lynne," 188; "Adam Bede," 181; Mrs. Wood's "Channings," 143; Kingsley's "Westward Ho!," 139; "My Novel," 137; "John Inglesant," 134; "The Vicar of Wakefield," 133; "Middlemarch," 129; "It's Never Too Late to Mend," 121; and Miss Worboise's "Father Fabian," 119. The only book in departments other than fiction which would be entitled to a place on this list is Tennyson's Poems, 135.

It is strange to find no mention of the 'Newcomes,' and to see a dreary book like 'Bleak House' so much run after; probably its mawkishness is the reason.

In the Literary Gossip in the *Athenæum* we are told that Mr. W. Morris has in hand 'The Pilgrims of Hope' dealing in anapestic measure with the socialist propaganda, and that his translation of the *Odyssey* is not so far advanced as was previously announced. Lord Tennyson has telegraphed to Senator Hawley his thanks for his Copyright Bill. A second volume of Mr. Blaine's 'Twenty Years of Congress' is in the press. Bishop Wordsworth, of St. Andrews, is about to issue 'Public Appeals,' fortnightly, discussing the desirability of ecclesiastical union between Presbyterians and Episcopalians in Scotland. Messrs. Cassell are going to bring out a series of manuals on the religious difficulties of day, and among the writers will be the Archbishop of York, and the Bishops of Carlisle, Peterborough, and Derry.

REVIEW.

THE first article in the January-February number of the *China Review*, just received, is a learned disquisition by Mr. E. H. Parker on the relation of the Chinese language to the languages of Corea and Japan. To say that the article is easy reading would be to say more than even its author could expect; there is a great deal of material in it, but it is very unsystematically arranged, and it is somewhat fanciful to compare the relation in question to that of Latin to the languages of England and Russia. It is refreshing to read such an authority as Mr. Parker declaring that

"Japanese History previous to A.D. 400 is for the most part manifest twaddle," and approving the Japanese statement that "The great Mongol conqueror Genghis Khan was but a Japanese refugee." Mr. Parker's speculations may be useful to some future scholar, but in their present shape they are too crude for immediate assimilation. Mr. Parker's article is followed by a dissertation by Mr. Chalmers, headed "The History of Foreigners in China." It turns out on examination to be merely a series of notes on the State of Hia; not the great semi-mythical Hia dynasty, B.C. 1990-1558, but certain more modern states, which for a time claimed independence under the name of Hia. The notes extend over a period of about 800 years, from 407 to 1,227 A.D., and while they contain here and there an interesting fact, such as the statement that the habit of plaiting the hair in a cue came from the Siu-pi, a non-Chinese tribe which flourished on the north-east frontier of China in the third century of our era, they are on the whole very unsatisfying reading, and mainly useful as materials for some future history. They chiefly make us wonder how such a murderous and blood-thirsty people as the early Chinese were, developed into the present peaceable and law-abiding race. Mr. Taylor comes next with a farther instalment of his notes on the Aborigines of Formosa. These are really interesting, the races considered in this number being the Paiwans, the Caviangans, the Tipuns and the Amias. The legendary origin of the last of these is very curious. The tradition is "that the ancestors of the Amias were the crew of a large vessel wrecked on the coast, who were given their lives and allowed to intermarry with the natives, on the understanding that they and their posterity were for ever to consider themselves an alien race, subservient to the true aborigines." The Amias have so increased and multiplied, and are such a tall, fine race of men, that this subservience is now only a fiction; but it is still maintained, and at mixed gatherings the Amias are not allowed to sit at table until all the other savages have been served. They have a supreme deity named Maratoo (c.f. Indian *Manitau*), and believe in an after state; and they have legends of the existence of peoples beyond the sea who can communicate by writing. They are the only people in South Formosa who have any idea of this kind. They do not greatly enjoy domestic bliss, and accordingly explain the phenomena of thunder and lightning as the result of a fight between two married spirits, Kakring and Kalapiet. The articles on Adoption and on the Prevalence of Infanticide in China, by Mr. Mitchell-Innes and Dr. Macgowan respectively, are not intended *virginibus puerisque*, but they contain a good deal of valuable information to students of such subjects. The notices of books are brief but sufficient; and we cannot but admire the fecundity of Mr. Parker, who sends no less than sixty-three paragraphs to the "Notes and Queries" columns, thickly peppered, as usual, with Chinese characters. Sinologues will greatly enjoy his English and Chinese proverbs compared: they are a Barmecide banquet to the non-sinologue, owing to Mr. Parker's neglect to give any translation of the Chinese texts.

Outports.

PEKING.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

THE race for wealth is kept up here and for a place not opened to trade the amount of business put through is something quite remarkable. Ministers and Secretaries have had a splendid time for many years among the curios, and some of them have furnished their nests well with the spoils of the

capital, but of late years the unmitigated trader—one cannot call him "legitimate" in Peking—has been having his innings, and the cry is still they come. Meeting seven carloads of curios in the street the other day, I was curious enough to enquire whence? and whither? and was informed they were bought by the orders of an American millionaire in Japan, who employed an agent here simply to sweep the market of everything for which money would be accepted. In this miraculous draught, no doubt some very fine fish will be found, but it speaks well for the rapid development of American taste for old china-ware, that such an order could be given by a man who reckons to clear cent. per cent. It is a wonder the Legations don't put a stop to this, for their craft is in danger.

The French Legation is now full, and it makes a great difference to Peking life. Vast as is the present house-space, more buildings are to be added to the Legation, which portends a permanent increase to the staff. A military attaché will henceforth form part of the mission so as to keep the French Government better informed of the resources of China than they were during the Tongking war. The mountains are still in labour with the commercial treaty, which is not expected to come to the birth for a few months yet. Meanwhile, it is understood that the frontier delimitation has been going on swimmingly for some time past, the redoubtable T'eng having been brought to reason by the tact and patience of the foreign coadjutors.

Peking society has sustained an irreparable loss in the departure of M. and Madame Popoff from the Russian Legation, which during their residence has been the centre and focus of hospitality. Whether in his official or social capacity M. Popoff has never for an instant lost the respect of the residents. During all the excitement of the last two years he has pursued the even tenor of his way, avoiding intrigue, and holding up the dignity of his country, and showing an example worthy of imitation. As for Madame Popoff, her unaffected and untiring kindness wins the love of everybody without exception who comes within her orbit, and both of them carry with them the warmest wishes of the Peking community for their health and prosperity wherever they may go.

24th March.

TIENTSIN.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

A N.W. gale has been blowing with scarce any intermission for a week, and from the extraordinary irregularity of the tides it is inferred that the waters of the gulf have been subjected to unusual disturbance. When the Spring tides were "making," there was a sudden fall of two feet between one high-water and another, and *en revanche* when the tides were, or ought to have been, taking off, an equally remarkable rise took place.

The latest arrived steamers have brought Frenchmen and a considerable further infiltration of that element is expected in a few days more. What do they all expect? Under different circumstances it might have been a ticklish thing between Frank and Teuton, and the clear waters of the Peiho might have been ensanguined by the struggle for first place; but as there is not even a bone to quarrel over, we may hope to be spared any needless demonstrations of national ardour.

The great wash-house question is as good as settled and the whole community breathes freely again. It appears the outraged Consul offers to accept an apology from the Council and it is understood that he will wait till he gets it. So there is to be a general hand-shaking and the coat tails are not to be dragged any more. Are we not a happy family? Echo answers "We are."

The Tientsin A.D.C. concluded a brilliant season by the performance of "Aladdin" on Thursday evening, before a happy and contented audience. The jokes in this charming burlesque are as thin as the butterine on workhouse bread, but with the aid of local colouring the piece provoked much innocent mirth. The dresses were highly applauded, especially those of the Princess and the "China Wuman"; the scenery was gorgeous, and simply brought the house down in gratitude to the indefatigable Mr. Rivers; the acting and the singing were both excellent of their kind; and the *tout ensemble* left a delicate flavour on the palate, which was heightened by the interesting rumours concerning one of the prominent actors which got about in the room before the close of the performance, showing that he had not been giving all his spare time to rehearsals.

For the second time during this dramatic season have the resources of the Corps been tested by the defection of members just before the performance; but on both occasions the openings in the ranks have been promptly filled in a way to show that no man, or number of men, are indispensable in this world. The T.A.D.C. in fact shows as much vitality as a polypus, and a great deal more than a Gladstone Cabinet. The latter you may cut up into little bits, but so long as you leave the head the organism survives the ordeal like a tape-worm. The difference with us is that you may cut off head and all, and still not destroy vitality. Messieurs Zephyr and Monocacy please note.

The season was appropriately opened on Hogmanay by a most interesting novelty in the shape of a pantomime, or rather harlequinade, which was pronounced one of the most amusing things that have been seen so far north as this. The little but manly figure of a certain Lieutenant Jonani in the harlequin tights, and his saltatory feats, will not be soon forgotten by a grateful public. A local celebrity done up in the shape of a sand-glass made a most charming columbine, whose graceful figure and springy movements set off the white tulle to advantage. The performances of Clown and Pantaloon were simply beyond praise, and the exhibition was as moral as Artemus Ward's wax-works, for the majesty of the law as impersonated by Bobby was usually victorious over vice. That performance had an excellent effect on the Chinese hereabouts, who so much enjoyed seeing harlequin knocked into smithereens by a pistol (which would not go off) and come to life again, and the excavation of the dead poulterer's tum-tum, out of which emerged the living contents of Noah's Ark, that they roared they would never miss another performance to which they could possibly be admitted. How far that possibility may extend cannot yet be calculated. The native element appeared the other night in amazing force, and if they could not follow all the niceties of the dialogue, as "mine eyes grow filmy; fill me up another," they comprehended the very audible faint of the Widow Twankey and the smoking of a Chinese waterpipe by the Emperor. The Tientsin compadore is a very different species to the Cantonese or Ningpo variety. His dimensions are on an average as follows: height, fourteen feet; circumference, abdominal, twenty-five feet; thoracic, seventeen feet; gaitural, nine feet. These measurements are subject to variation according to season. The man is also fearfully and wonderfully made internally, and the thunders pent up in his vast cavities finding their usual postprandial vent are apt to paralyse actors and audience: as the roar of the lion is popularly supposed to do the beasts of the desert. But there is only one man who ever could have depicted the Northern Compadore without exaggeration, and he has unfortunately been dead 400 years. His name was Francis Rabelais.

There is hardly space left to notice the mid-winter performances, to which the pantomime was but the prologue, and the burlesque the epilogue. Some time in January we had the two rattling good pieces, "Cut off with a Shilling" and "Little Toddlekens," in which two ladies of the Settlement played parts in a way which defied criticism. That performance was the real success of the season, and gave universal satisfaction.

It is a pity your musical critic was not here to give you an account of the various concerts that have come off during the winter. It is one of the ways we have of raising the wind for worthy objects, and no way more pleasing could be thought of. Some of the musical performances really deserve to be recorded in imperishable ink, and I would suggest another time that you send up your professional man by one of the last steamers and let him winter here and pick up all the unconsidered trifles in the way of music that offer themselves.

26th March.

The upper reaches of the river are again silting up, and steamers are experiencing the same difficulty as they did during the early part of last summer in reaching Tientsin, and take on an average two days to get up after crossing the bar. Mails are detained, too; few of the steamers sending up their letters from Taku. Thus the French mail of 12th February on board the *Chungking* has been already 24 hours in the river. At least that portion of it which was re-directed in Shanghai, for all the direct mails were received ex *Wismar*, on the 30th, the day before the *Chungking* arrived at the Bar. This is the second time the *Wismar* has brought the French mail in advance of the regular liners, and the British Postmaster in Shanghai deserves credit for putting the bags on board that steamer.

There is a big dredger at work clearing away the silt from the French Bund, with a view to making the landing available for steamers, but the machine is probably inadequate to keeping the channel of the river clear, and probably we shall have to wait, as usual, for the current to scour the bottom.

The German Syndicate are expected back from Peking to-day, *re infecta*.

The French Engineers and Naval Constructors under the direction of the Comptoir d'Excmpte are very comfortably installed at the Globe Hotel, and they will probably build a house for more permanent occupation, as they are bent on regular siege operations.

The Imperial party left Peking yesterday for the Tombs.

1st April.

COREA.

Regarding affairs in Corea a well informed Correspondent writes:—

You ask for information about doings in Corea and it is difficult to answer such a question; one thing is certain, Japan is dissatisfied with China's action there, and China is displeased with Japan's action.

China is presuming on her former vague relation with Corea, and also on her success with the Dai In Kun to influence and even to coerce Corea into thorough submission to Chinese anti-Japanese policy. All this is perilous work and will sooner or later compromise China, not only with Japan but also with the Treaty Powers, so that the actual situation of affairs in Corea is dangerous to the maintenance of peace. I know that the King regrets the departure of Herr von Möllendorff, who always gave him sound advice, and His Majesty is at times sorely troubled at his political individuality being supplemented by Chinese influence, authoritatively displayed by the Chinese resident political agent at Seoul. Neither China nor Japan are sincere in their professions about Corea; each striving

to over-reach the other. This state of affairs cannot go on for ever. It must come to an end, and the sooner all the secret hatred (mutually) of China and Japan over Corea bursts forth into action and even war, the better it will be for Corea, and for the Treaty Powers, who, through a mistaken policy, are trying to patch up all the political differences between China and Japan, instead of letting them come to their natural solution. It may be looked on as certain that if either China or Japan felt itself strong enough, one of them would seize Corea to-morrow—so that neither China nor Japan has the slightest regard for the interests of the other powers, who are being deceived by the two Asiatic empires. The arrival of Mr. Denny is looked forward to, with great anticipation that he will by his sound judgement and advice assist the King of Corea to assert his independent authority, and draw to himself sincere friends, who will strengthen his sovereign position by making him steer clear of the selfish designs of these advisers who are merely using him as an instrument for the promotion of their own ends.

8th March.

Meetings.

MUNICIPAL COUNCIL.

At the General Meeting of the Council held in the Board Room, No. 23, Kiangsue Road, Shanghai, on Friday, the 26th March, 1886, at 4 o'clock p.m.

Present:—Messrs. G. J. Morrison (Vice-Chairman in the chair), M. Adler, Th. Bieber, P. Maclean, M. M. Moses, J. F. Seaman, J. Simpson, and the Secretary.

The Minutes of last Meeting are read, confirmed, signed by the Chairman, and passed for publication.

Cattle in Native Dairies.—The following report is ordered to be published:—

RETURN OF ANIMALS KEPT AT THE NATIVE DAIRIES. Shanghai, 22nd March, 1886.

Locality of Dairy	Remained last Return.	Remarks.
Tongkew H. (No. 1)	1	2 Buffaloes bought.
Brandy No. 2	1	1 Buffalo bought.
Lee Hongkew	1	
Wooning Road	1	
Shizu Village	1	
" No. 3	1	
Tah-hoo Dairy	1	
Yuen-sung	1	
Eng-lee	1	
Tah-sien-joh (South)	1	
Near Ningpo Joss House (Allying)	1	
Overweg's Hunglow	1	
Hing-foi	1	
Zee	1	
South of Tah-sien-joh	1	
Ab-cho	1	
Needing	1	
Total	12	

Bought and born 12
Sold &c.....11
Increase 1

I inspected the cattle kept at the above named places on Monday, Wednesday and Friday of last week and found them all in good health and condition except the young calf at Hung Fie which died on Thursday.

JAMES A. WOOD,
Asst. Insp. of Markets.

Submitted, J.H.

Cash Statement for past week is submitted, and Cheques for sundry accounts are signed.

Illegal Arrests by the Native Authorities.
—Letter from the Captain Superintendent of Police submitted, reporting the arrest in Li Hongkew of five gamblers by the Head Runner from the Che Hsien's yamen and his assistants, upon a warrant issued by the City Magistrate, which did not bear the seal of the Senior Consul, and without any application having been made for the assistance of the Municipal Police.

The Chairman mentions that the Senior Consul has been written to, and requested to take such steps as he may consider necessary, in order to prevent the Native Authorities from making arrests in the Settlement upon warrants which have not been stamped by the Senior Consul, and without obtaining the assistance of the Municipal Police.

Fees on Telephone Poles.—Decided to take into consideration at next Meeting the abolition of fees for permits to erect Telephone Poles, in accordance with the resolution agreed to at the Annual Meeting of Ratepayers.

The Meeting then adjourned.

SHANGHAI GENERAL CHAMBER OF COMMERCE.

The adjourned annual general meeting of the Chamber of Commerce was held on Monday afternoon at the offices of the Chamber, in Szechuen Road. Mr. J. J. Keswick (Chairman of the Committee) presided, and there were also present Messrs. W. Brand, E. H. Lavers, C. M. Dyce, F. E. Haskell, J. G. Purdon, F. D. Bush, H. Hertz, J. Welch, C. Jentzen, J. M. Young, A. G. Wood, C. Beumann, J. MacMurray, M. Adler, Alex. Ross, J. Greenwood, A. Gultzow, J. L. Scott, T. Wood and G. R. Corner (Secretary.)

The CHAIRMAN said—Gentlemen, this is the adjourned annual general meeting of the Shanghai General Chamber of Commerce, which unfortunately we were not able to hold last week in consequence of there not being a quorum present. There is now a quorum, and I think it will be well to commence the business of the meeting. There have been few matters of importance before the Committee during the year 1885; but it seems likely that important matters will come before the incoming Committee for their consideration. The matters which have been dealt with during the past year have been more or less of passing importance. There were questions of wharfage dues, of pilotage regulations, of after-hours permits, and a few other matters; but I hope that in the coming year the Committee will have a greater sphere of usefulness. Happily we meet on the present occasion at the annual meeting under much more favourable prospects than we had last year, when the hostilities between France and China rendered commercial men anxious with regard to the prospects before them. Now, however, all that is passed. In August the treaty of peace was concluded and the blockade of Formosa was raised, and now we have returned to our normal condition, confidence having been restored between Europeans and Chinese. Having remarked that there is little in the report to which I need specially draw your attention, I will not detain you any longer before moving the adopting of the report.—I am reminded that it is customary to read the notice calling the meeting. The Secretary will read it.

Mr. CORNER read the original notice calling the meeting for the 29th March, and also the notification of its adjournment till the 5th April.

The CHAIRMAN then moved:—

That the report, as presented, be accepted and passed.

Mr. A. G. WOOD seconded the motion, and it was carried.

The CHAIRMAN—The next resolution, gentlemen, is to pass the accounts. I am sorry to say that the revenue of the Chamber is gradually falling off—chiefly, I think, in consequence of the income which we formerly derived from the Chamber's circular having greatly fallen off. That is perhaps in a great measure attributable to the fact that there are now a number of special circulars issued by firms in Shanghai, who consequently do not require the Chamber's circular; and besides, economy may have something to do with it on the part of former subscribers to the circular. I do not know what means could be adopted to improve the revenue from these sources, unless it be an effort made to get more persons to take the circular, or, on other hand, to get more members to join the Chamber. Whether that is likely to succeed or not I cannot tell; but I am very much afraid that it will be with some difficulty that we increase our revenue from either of these sources. I hope, however, that members of the Chamber, in order to maintain the revenue which is absolutely necessary, will use their utmost endeavours both to increase the number of circulars taken and to increase the number of members. I am not aware that there is anything else with regard to the accounts that I need draw your attention to, except that the money expended by the Chamber when acting on behalf of the community in respect of the meeting held in September, 1884, has been refunded—about Tls. 700. I think there is no other item I need refer to; I therefore beg to move the second resolution:—

That the accounts, as presented, be passed.

Mr. LAYERS—I have much pleasure in seconding that resolution. Mr. Keswick has gone so fully into the subject, and has also so strongly impressed on you the necessity of endeavouring to get new members of the Chamber, and to increase the circulation of the circular, that there is nothing more to be said.

Mr. HERTZ—May I ask, Mr. Chairman, if there is any means of making the Circular more valuable? It is not subscribed for because it is not of such importance that it is necessary to take it. Perhaps if more statistics were put in it, like Maclean's circular, it would be subscribed for more readily. It is always a question of supply and demand. If the circular was worth taking it would be taken.

The CHAIRMAN said Mr. Hertz's suggestion would be brought to the notice of the incoming Committee.

The motion for the passing of the accounts was then put to the meeting and carried.

The CHAIRMAN intimated that the next business was the election of a Committee for the current year. Slips of papers containing the names of those who were willing to serve were handed round.

The CHAIRMAN said—While the votes are being counted we will proceed with any other business before the Chamber. You will all have seen some interesting correspondence which has appeared in the papers with regard to the duty on tea, under the letters K. C. Y., I think. We have received a letter from Messrs. Welch, Lewis & Co. which I will read to you, and which will be dealt with by the incoming Committee. As the question is likely to be of interest to the gentlemen present, they will perhaps, if prepared to do so, discuss the question in order that the incoming Committee may know their views on the subject. The letter is as follows:—

Shanghai, 19th March, 1886.

GEO. R. CORNER, Esq.,

Secretary,

Shanghai General Chamber of Commerce,
DEAR SIR,—We shall be obliged if you will kindly bring before the notice of your Committee the question of the duties and other taxation on tea, with the object of representing to the Ministers at Peking and Sir Robert Hart the injury these taxes occasion to one of our principal branches of commerce, and of pointing out to them the rapidly increasing competition of other tea-producing countries which threatens to endanger the trade in China.

We should also be glad if you would solicit the co-operation of all the other Chambers of Commerce in China to send representations to Peking to the same effect.

We are, dear Sir,

Yours faithfully,

WELCH, LEWIS & Co.

If any gentleman present will express his opinion on that, it will be of use to the Committee.

Mr. WELCH—Mr. Chairman, my chief object in drawing the attention of the Committee to the question of the duties on tea was in the hope that you would send some information to Peking as to the position and prospects of the tea trade. From the memorandum which Sir Robert Hart sent to the Tsung-li Yamen there is apparently a want of knowledge on the part of the Chinese Government with regard to what is going on in the tea trade in any other country than China. The competition is getting keener every year; and the great demand in London for China teas has been at a low price; and unless this taxation is lightened or taken away altogether the demand cannot be supplied at the price now ruling in London. If taxation were taken away altogether we should then see a rapid increase in the exports; but as it is at present there is no encouragement to tea men; and instead of increasing at the rate of 5 per cent. per annum we have seen it for the last six years perfectly stationary. It has not decreased so far, but the extension has ceased; and I should like to see the trade extend instead of decreasing.

Mr. HERTZ—Mr. Chairman, in saying anything in opposition to Mr. Welch I expect to be in a minority; but at the same time I have had a great deal to do with tea in the course of a good many years in China, and it seems to me that the chief difficulty is over-production. At present we are suffering from an excess of tea. China has always produced far more tea than has gone off; and instead of these taxes checking the export, it appears to me to get larger and larger every year, though of late the increase has not been very great. I do not think it is a question of duty at all. It seems to me the less tea produced the better for those engaged in the trade. If we were taking the part of the Chinese it would be a very different matter indeed; but as far as we are concerned it seems to me that the duty does not affect us injuriously. The amount of tea produced is so far in excess of requirements that it can never be got rid of before the new crop arrives. When the time arrives that the supply is not equal to the demand it will be time to take this matter in hand.

Mr. J. M. YOUNG was very glad to hear the remarks of Mr. Hertz, with which he entirely agreed. He believed it would be to the detriment of the foreign trader to remove the duty on tea.

Mr. PURDON said if Mr. Hertz's theory were correct, what a fine thing it would be for the tea-traders if the duty were made so high as to stop the export altogether!

Mr. HERTZ—No, not altogether.

The CHAIRMAN then announced that the following gentlemen had been elected to serve on the Committee:—Messrs. E. H. Lavers, J. G. Purdon, W. Brand, F. E. Haskell, C. Jantzen, A. G. Wood, C. M.

Dyce, W. Howie, C. V. Smith and J. J. Keswick.

The CHAIRMAN then remarked that the incoming Committee would consider the opinions which had been expressed by members of the Chamber on the subject of taxation on tea and would no doubt communicate with Sir Robert Hart on the matter. The next business he had to lay before them was a letter on the subject of a memorial to the late Sir Harry Parkes, which letter had been published in the *North-China Daily News* some time ago, as the best means of giving publicity to it and inviting expressions of opinion from the public upon it. In order to recall this letter to their minds he would read it again. It was addressed to the Chairman of the Chamber of Commerce by the Rev. Mr. Lipscomb, who was one of the honorary secretaries of the proposed memorial fund. The Chairman then read Mr. Lipscomb's letter, which appeared in our issue of the 20th February, and also a letter on the same subject from the Chairman of the Hongkong Chamber of Commerce, who said that opinion there seemed to be in favour of a local memorial—probably a statue, unless there were difficulties in the way to prevent this idea from being carried out. The Chairman said the Chamber had heard nothing at all in reply to the notice which had been called to Mr. Lipscomb's letter in the paper; and he thought this was a good opportunity for the members of this Chamber to make suggestions as to what steps the incoming Committee should take in order to further this object; and perhaps gentlemen present would also take this opportunity of expressing their views as to the desirability of supporting this movement, which he took it for granted would meet with universal approval.

Mr. PURDON asked if the present Committee had considered the matter, and whether they had any proposal to make.

The CHAIRMAN said the late Committee had thought the only course they could possibly take was to publish these letters and invite an expression of public opinion on the subject; and no expression of opinion on the subject had as yet reached the Committee.

Mr. HERTZ suggested that as the Chamber of Commerce at Hongkong seemed to have in view a memorial of a local character, it might be best for this Chamber to do something similar. He would suggest that this should take the form of a memorial window in the Cathedral, which would cost about £100. He thought that would be a very suitable memorial on the part of the Chamber, as Sir Harry Parkes always worshipped in the Cathedral when he came to Shanghai; and the community in general could be left to take what steps they thought best in the matter.

The CHAIRMAN said he had reason to believe that steps had been taken with a similar object to that which Mr. Hertz suggested, by friends of the family at home.

Mr. PURDON thought it would be better to refer the whole question to the new Committee, to make some suggestion, either to the members of the Chamber or to the whole community, on the subject.

This course was agreed to.

The CHAIRMAN said he did not know whether any gentleman had any other business to bring forward. There was one letter which had been received, dated the 1st April, on the subject of the revision of the Harbour Regulations, which he would read.—Mr. Keswick accordingly read a letter from Dr. Lührsen enclosing a number of suggestions made by Mr. Biebee, Harbour Master, for the improvement of the Harbour Regulations, all of which, with the exception of one, had been approved by the Board of Consuls. Mr. Keswick said the letter would be considered by the incoming Committee, and the only point to which he wished to

call their attention was the one and only proposed amendment in the Regulations to which exception had been taken. Rule formerly read as follows:—“Vessels arriving with Kerosene Oil or Petroleum on board as cargo shall be berthed on the Pootung side of the 9th Section of the Harbour and must remain there until all such cargo has been discharged.” It was proposed to alter this by substituting “8th and 9th Sections” for “9th Section;” and to this the Consuls took exception. Now as a matter of fact he thought the incoming Committee would be struck by the fact that there was some misapprehension on the part of the Consular body with regard to this Rule, because at present the Rule was contravened every day. Lorcha coming up the river and other vessels constantly discharged kerosene oil at Tung-ka-doo and elsewhere; and therefore he presumed the words, “who shall remain there until all such cargo is discharged” were virtually of no effect. The incoming Council would no doubt draw the attention of the Board of Consuls to the fact that at present the Rule was systematically broken. He asked if any gentleman had anything to say on this subject.

There being no response, the meeting separated after a vote of thanks to the Chairman had been proposed by Mr. Hertz.

SELANGOR TIN MINING COMPANY OF SHANGHAI.

The adjourned annual meeting of the shareholders in this Company was held yesterday afternoon at the Company's offices, Nanking Road. Mr. R. Francis presided in the absence of Mr. Drummond, the Chairman of the Company; and there were also present Messrs. H. J. Limby, W. Church, R. M. Campbell and C. J. Dudgeon (Secretary) representing 371 shares.

The CHAIRMAN said—Gentlemen, the report is rather long, and has been in your hands for some days; with your permission we will take it as read. Before moving the first resolution, I have very few remarks to make on the report, as it is tolerably full. You will have ascertained from it that what we stated to be our last chance—with the block at Sungei Puteh—has not been successful. The report also states the steps taken by the directors after the failure was ascertained. Arrangements were made with the Government for the sale of the Sungei Puteh block on the best terms obtainable, and the block has been sold. With regard to the future, the engagement of the Company to use the money arising from the sale of the Sungei Puteh block in further exploration will prevent any immediate winding up. From the report you will see that the chance of discovering anything that would warrant the raising of capital and recommencement of working appears very small. As stated by the Chairman of this Company at a meeting of the Perak Tin Mining Company, alluvial mining appears to have been a failure generally in the Straits. In Perak what seems to be a lode has been discovered, offering some chance and success, and our impression now is that our only chance of really doing any good in Selangor lies in the possible discovery of a lode in that country, and we propose to urge upon Mr. Atkinson that in his explorations he should devote himself principally to ascertaining if there is any land in which a lode might possibly be discovered. If we are unable to discover any blocks which promise success, the directors, as soon as they have fulfilled their obligation to the Government, will call a meeting of the shareholders to consider the winding up of the Company. If any shareholder has any remark to make before I move the first resolution I shall be glad to hear it.

Mr. CHURCH—How long will it be before we fulfil our obligation to the Government?

The CHAIRMAN—I suppose three or four months.

The SECRETARY—Mr. Atkinson's agreement expires on the 1st July, and it is hoped by that time we shall have tested the place as much as possible.

Mr. CAMPBELL—Mr. Chairman, the Sungei Puteh block has been sold, I believe?

The CHAIRMAN—It has.

Mr. CAMPBELL—I should like to know whether there is sufficient money to meet all liabilities, or whether there is any possibility of a call being made?

The CHAIRMAN—According to our present view there would be a small balance after meeting all obligations. I think there is no likelihood of a call at all.

The SECRETARY—There is no fear of it at all.

The CHAIRMAN—I may mention that since the report has been published, Mr. Edward Robinson, one of our directors, has left Shanghai. The directors have appointed Mr. H. J. Limby in his place. If there are no other remarks I will move the first resolution:—

That the report and accounts, as presented, be passed.

Mr. LIMBY seconded the motion, and it was carried.

Mr. CHURCH—I beg to propose—

That Mr. Francis be re-elected a Director of the Company.

Mr. CAMPBELL—I beg to second that.

The motion was carried.

Mr. CAMPBELL moved, Mr. CHURCH seconded, and it was agreed—

That Mr. C. D. Kerr be reappointed auditor, and that his remuneration be fixed at Tis. 25 per quarter.

This concluded the business.

SHANGHAI ELECTRIC COMPANY.

The adjourned annual general meeting of the Shanghai Electric Company was held on Thursday afternoon at the office of the Secretary, four shareholders being present, Mr. R. W. Little presiding.

The Secretary read the notice calling the meeting. The minutes of the last annual meeting were taken as read and confirmed; and the minutes of the extraordinary general meeting held in July last were read and confirmed.

The Report and Accounts, which have been printed and circulated among the shareholders, were taken as read.

It was moved by Mr. LITTLE, seconded by Mr. WALLER and carried—

That the Report and Accounts, as presented, be adopted and passed.

It was moved by Mr. WALLER, seconded by Mr. CHURCH, and carried—

That Messrs. K. Agthe, W. Church and R. W. Little be elected Directors for the current year.

It was moved by Mr. LITTLE, seconded by Mr. AGTHE, and carried—

That Mr. Frank Reid be appointed auditor of the Company for the current year.

The CHAIRMAN said that the lighting was going on well, and everything was in good order at the Station. The Company's Superintendent, Mr. Brown, was at present in Manila, the civil governor having asked the Company to make a proposition for lighting the harbour of the city; a tender had been sent in for lighting the city also, but no reply had yet been received. On the return of Mr. Brown, it would doubtless be advisable to call a special meeting of shareholders to consider his report on the situation in Manila.

This finished the business of the meeting.

SHANGHAI CRICKET CLUB.

The annual general meeting of the members of the Shanghai Cricket Club was held at the Shanghai Club on Thursday afternoon at 6 o'clock. Among those present were Messrs. A. Anderson, F. Anderson, F. B. Aubert, E. B. A. Burrows, E. J. Coxon, A. Cushing, E. B. Dowley, G. B. Dodwell, C. H. Fearon, R. G. Gibb, W. Lamond, T. J. Macdonald, J. A. Macrae, E. S. Perrott, E. A. Probst, Stuart Smith, A. Stewart, G. T. Veitch and M. Wolff.

The President of the Club being absent, Mr. A. Anderson was asked to take the chair.

The CHAIRMAN then read the minutes of the last annual meeting, after which he said that as the Report and Accounts for the past year contained a pretty full explanation of the condition of the Club, it would not be necessary for him to say much on the subject. While, however, the members were looking over the Reports and Accounts, time would be saved if the election of office bearers for the present year, which commenced on 1st April, were proceeded with at the same time. It had been proposed that the offices of Secretary and Treasurer be divided and held by separate persons, as this would give more time to each to look after the interests of the Club. He mentioned at the same time the names of Messrs. Probst and Dowley who had signified their willingness to serve if elected.

Some discussion then ensued as to the way the new Committee should be elected, as there might be some who would not serve. It was finally arranged that some one should propose the names of the President, Secretary and Treasurer.

Mr. G. T. VEITCH proposed, and Mr. STEWART seconded, and it was carried unanimously—

That Mr. Hearn be re-elected President, Mr. E. A. Probst be elected Secretary, and Mr. E. B. Dowley, Treasurer.

The other members of the Committee were then re-elected, as follows:—Messrs. A. Anderson, F. B. Aubert, G. T. Veitch and E. S. Perrott.

The CHAIRMAN said that the estimated expenditure and income for the coming year, as calculated by the late Secretary, Mr. Dunman, were:—Expenditure Tls. 1,600, and the Income, including a balance of Tls. 43 from the 1885 account, Tls. 1,660, being a balance in their favour of Tls. 60 on the year's working. He said there was a larger stock of gear than they ever had before, so that they would not require to expend so much this year. The estimate also provided for 20 new and 8 honorary members joining the Club before the next annual meeting, though this was rather a low estimate.

A member asked, with regard to the fire insurance, whether the premium now paid was not rather high, and suggested that it might be ascertained whether some office could not be induced to give them more favourable terms.

Mr. LAMOND asked how it was that the item for wages, washing, etc. was so large.

The CHAIRMAN explained the actual amount was only Tls. 98.59, out of which \$30 had been paid for towels, besides, the number of subscribers was more in 1885 than in 1884, and there were some repairs to make.

Mr. LAMOND said he did not doubt but that the money had been expended; he only wanted to know how it had been employed, and was quite satisfied with the Chairman's explanation.

It was then proposed by Mr. STUART SMITH, seconded by Mr. GIBB and carried unanimously—

That the Report and Accounts, as presented, be passed.

Mr. COXON suggested that a sub-committee of three be appointed to look after the Lawn Tennis arrangements, as there

were many members of the Club who were interested in that game.

The CHAIRMAN said that no doubt the Committee would give the suggestion their attention, as similar Committees for other things had been appointed before.

Mr. COXON wanted the Committee to purchase quoits.

The CHAIRMAN said the Club was already in possession of some sets.

Mr. PROBST asked leave to say a few words. He thanked the members for electing him Secretary, and promised to do his best for the Club. He said he would get up cricket matches for all classes of players, but he expected the players to be on the ground at the appointed time and not, as had been frequently the case in the past, for only three or four players to turn up. Of course, he said, duty went before pleasure, so that if a player had promised to attend and could not, he should notify the Secretary, so that some one else might take his place. If this were acted upon, his office as Secretary would be a pleasurable one. The members must be punctual and come up to the scratch. He also hoped the present members would try to send in new names.

The CHAIRMAN said the dilatoriness of some of the members was enough to dishearten any Secretary. If they could not attend they should say so. It was easy enough to be punctual if they undertook to play. He also, in reply to a question, said the Cricket ground was nominally open from 1st instant, but the Secretary would notify, by an advertisement, when the members could commence playing.

A vote of thanks to the Chairman and the out-going Committee concluded the proceedings.

SHANGHAI PUBLIC SCHOOL.

At half-past nine o'clock on Monday morning the Shanghai Public School, established by the Freemasons of Shanghai, and which is to be carried on under the auspices of the Fraternity, was formally opened in the premises adjoining the Austrian Consulate at the junction of the Peking and Honan Roads. The house has been thoroughly well adapted to all the purposes of a school, with well-fitted class rooms for boys and girls on the ground floor, and dormitories arranged to accommodate twelve boarders on the floor above. At the back are separate play-grounds for boys and girls, which are to be fitted up with swings and gymnastic apparatus, while an out-house formerly used as a billiard-room makes a capital play-room for wet weather. The school starts with excellent prospects, nearly fifty children having been enrolled prior to the opening, while further applications for admission are daily received by the Council. The heads of all the different Masonic bodies in Shanghai had been invited to attend the opening ceremony, and all, or nearly all, were present either personally or by their representatives. As the visitors arrived they were hastened by the sound of the school-bell, which we believe is a gift of a member of the Council, calling the first youngsters to the school. They were soon ushered into the large school-room, where a fair proportion of the children on the roll were already ranged at their desks. The chair was taken by R. W. Bro. Cornelius Thorne, P. D. G. M., and President of the School Council, who was supported by R. W. Bro. Donaldson (Vice-President), and W. Bros. W. Birt, J. M. Cory, M. H. Cook, and John Morris (Honorary Secretary), Members of the Council; Bro. J. I. Miller (District Grand Master of Northern China), W. Bros. R. D. Starkey, O. Middleton, L. Moore, and J. G. Thirkell, and Bros. C. van Corbach (30th) and C. Deighton-Braysher (Royal Order of Scotland.) Letters had been received from W. Bro. Macgregor, Chairman of the Northern Lodge, and from the Chairman of the

Municipal Council, expressing their regret at being unable to attend. R. W. Bro. C. H. Dallas, P. D. G. M. of Japan, the first head master of the school, and Mrs. Dallas, the Lady Principal, were in charge of the children, and a few of the scholars' parents were also present.

Mr. C. THORNE said—Ladies and gentlemen, we are met here to-day to open the Shanghai Public School under the auspices of the masonic fraternity, and I will just make a very few remarks to my young friends whom I see before me. We are opening this new school to-day for the benefit of the little boys and girls of Shanghai. Some of those here, I observe, are already inclined to play. That will come in due time; now we are going to enter upon the business of life. You take your places in this school as the first of its scholars, and it will depend in a great measure upon the manner in which your studies are conducted whether it will be a success or not. Education is conducted now in a very different manner from what it was when we were children. You will have greater privileges than we had; and you must work more and harder. Mr. and Mrs. Dallas will take all the trouble with you they can; but it will be very little use their taking trouble unless you exert yourselves and try to attain success. In everything you do, no matter whether it is work or play, put your minds into it, and try all you can to succeed. You will have a very hard task when you enter upon life; and unless you take care to study well when you are children, you will be left far behind in the race. It will be very important that you should be particularly attentive to your teachers, and above all, wherever you are, to remember that the eye of God is upon you, and that you cannot keep anything from him. In all you do, be very straightforward to one another. Be kind to one another; help one another, and if there is any assistance you can render, do it with pleasure, and you will gain the good-will and affection of your instructors and playmates; and bye and bye you will become useful members of society. You cannot all be at the top of the class; but you can all try to attain success; and it will depend upon yourselves whether you get the prizes which Mr. and Mrs. Dallas propose to give. There will be one prize for regular attendance; so you must come here early in the morning and do not leave until after school is over; and then you will lose none of the lessons taught. Then there will be prizes for good conduct and attention, and you ought all to get them; and I do not know where the money is to come from then to provide the prizes. Then there will be prizes for general proficiency, and for languages, French, Latin and German; and there will be one for arithmetic. You have a great deal to do if you want to win these prizes. Now I think I have said almost enough to you; and I will say to Mr. and Mrs. Dallas—we now hand over to you the charge of this school. It is an important trust, because according as these children are trained, so their fortunes will be promoted or marred in after life. From the recommendations which the school Council have received, they have no doubt that under your care the school will be thoroughly well conducted. We therefore trust and hope that it will please the Almighty that the teaching in this school will prove a blessing both to the teachers and those who are taught. I have now much pleasure in announcing that the Shanghai Public School under the auspices of the Masonic Fraternity is now open; and we shall be happy to hear any remarks from any of the ladies or gentlemen present.

Mr. DEIGHTON-BRAYSHER—I was very pleased to receive an invitation to attend the opening of this public school; but I regret that it is to act in the absence of our worthy Chaplain, Mr. Smith, who was to have represented the Knights

of the Royal Order. I regret his absence particularly, considering the assiduous way in which he has worked for the formation of this school. The gentlemen on the Council know how much they are indebted to him for the consummation of this school scheme which we have had under consideration for the past eighteen months. Although I am not a member of the present Council, I was one of the original Committee for the formation of the school, and I am a Life Member. I shall therefore take the warmest interest in all that pertains to its welfare. I congratulate you, Mr. Dallas, on being the first master of this school; and I also congratulate you on having so able a coadjutor as you have in Mrs. Dallas; I am sure you will find willing supporters among the ladies of Shanghai, and particularly among the wives of masons; and I hope you will not fail to apply to them for their assistance. I wish the school every success.

Mr. J. I. MILLER—Ladies and gentlemen, I can only say that the thanks of the Masonic fraternity—and I hope the school will be such a success that I may say also the thanks of the whole community—are due to the School Council for their unwearied exertions in establishing this school. It has not been an easy matter at all—first as regards the funds, and then as regards many other questions connected with it. However, it is now to be got aloft, and I am sure that we shall all join heart and hand in making it a success and such an educational institution as has long been required in Shanghai.

Mr. C. H. DALLAS—Mr. Thorne and gentlemen, I thank you for the very kind manner in which you have alluded to my wife and myself; and I can assure you that no pains shall be wanting on our parts to justify the confidence which you repose in us, and to so carry out the wishes of the Council as to win for the school the approbation of all the parents who may entrust their children to our keeping. The establishment of this school under the auspices of the Masonic fraternity marks an era in educational matters in Shanghai, and we are fully sensible of the responsibility that devolves upon us. But we are encouraged by the thought that we shall have to follow the lines marked out for us by the wise experience of yourself and your colleagues on the School Council. We trust that the children will take to heart and bear in mind the words of advice you have addressed to them. The tone of the School will materially depend upon the influence exercised by the senior pupils. It will be our special duty to see that this influence is exercised for good; and I am glad to think that there are already here both boys and girls who may be trusted to set to the younger ones a good example, both for steady work in the school, and healthy recreation out of it. With the material of which it is composed, and with the assistance we hope soon to get, and with the advice and instruction of the Council to fall back upon, and with the influence of its numerous body of contributors, I cannot but think that this public school will supply a want which has been long felt by the community, and will deserve the continued support of the great fraternity to whose liberality it owes its establishment.

Mr. THORNE—Ladies and gentlemen, I think we will now retire, in order to allow the children to begin their studies—half an hour late. (Laughter.) Those who would like to see the dormitories, I am sure Mrs. Dallas will be glad to show over them.

Several of those present accepted the invitation, and made an inspection of the school-premises generally before leaving.

Amusements.

THE EIGHTY-FIFTH PERFORMANCE BY THE AMATEUR DRAMATIC CLUB.

The at first sight unaccountable silence of this popular Society last autumn did much to encourage the idea that the Amateur Dramatic Club had succumbed to apathy and to the superior attractions of the Country Club. The burlesque that was given in February last to one of the largest houses, if not actually the largest, ever brought together within the walls of the Lyceum, re-assured to a certain extent the friends of the A.D.C.; but there were still croakers who claimed that 'Orpheus and Eurydice' was an expiring effort. It was therefore with as much curiosity as anticipation of enjoyment, that a moderately large audience assembled on Friday last to attend the Club's eighty-fifth performance; and it is pleasant to record that the popular verdict was that there is no fear of the proximate demise of the Society, and that its dissolution would be a public calamity, as long as it can present such an admirable rendition of a comedy, as was the performance of "Engaged."

The entertainment commenced on Friday night with the time-honoured farce, attributed to Blanchard Jerrold, 'Cool as a Cucumber'; and we are free to confess that it was rather a melancholy exhibition. It seems a pity to drag from its respected tomb such a venerable piece of antiquity as this so-called farce. Time was when it was received night after night with roars of laughter; but the tastes of the town change and it is doubtful whether Charles Mathews himself could make a house laugh with it now. Certainly no one but a Charles Mathews could do it; and we could not help pitying Mr. Whittington's well-meant and laborious efforts to extract amusement from the dull and meaningless patter of Mr. Plummer. This actor, who made we believe his debut at the Lyceum on Friday, had a thorough knowledge of the text and the business of the part, and the way in which Charles used to play it; but he unfortunately entirely lacks the 'touch-and-go' lightness which is indispensable in such a character, and his delivery was too even and monotonous; mechanically rapid to the verge of unintelligibility. The other characters in the farce have little to do, and did the best they could. Mr. Umber was quite the old Barkins, Mr. Naldo a sufficiently wooden Frederick; Miss Barreville played with grace and liveliness the sadly uninteresting rôle of Jessie Hoviton, and Mrs. Umber, who is nothing if not melodramatic, was quite thrown away as the *soubrette*, Wiggins. It was a pity that the management did not content themselves with giving the comedy alone: for the introduction of the farce not only spun the performance out to an excessive length, but it acted as a positive damper on the audience, from which they did not recover until the first act of "Engaged" was at least half over.

As to Mr. Gilbert's eccentric comedy, "Engaged," we can safely say that nothing so good has been seen in Shanghai since the "Wedding March." There is absolutely no plot whatever in this three-act trifle: it is a sustained effort of good-natured cynicism, satirising the canny virtues of the Lowlanders, the Scotch marriage-laws, and the humours of marriageable young people. Its attractiveness resides entirely in the dialogue; and had that not been admirably given by everyone concerned, the comedy would have fallen as flat as the farce. Those who have seen the play before, must have regretted the inevitable excision of Mrs. Macfarlane and her daughter Maggie; but this excision was so well managed, that there were no noticeable gaps to those who saw it for the first time. We can fairly congratulate the Club on its new acquisitions. Mr. McArthur played Angus Macalister, the fairly pro-

sperous man, "what wi' farmie' a bit land, and gillieing odd times, and a bit o' poachin' now and again; and what wi' my illicit whusky still—and throwin' trains off the line, that the poor distracted passengers may come to my cot," with admirable realism of dress and accent. Mrs. Umber's Belinda Treherne was a revelation. This lady has become a finished actress, in looks, gesture and delivery, and she is endowed with a voice which, without being unduly raised or forced into a high key, is audible in the remotest corner of the house. The burlesque speeches which the author has put into her mouth—"I love you with an imperishable ardour which mocks the power of words. If I were to begin to tell you now of the force of my indomitable passion for you, the tomb would close over me before I could exhaust the entrancing subject. But, as I said before, business is business, and unless I can see some distinct probability that your income will be permanent, I shall have no alternative but to weep my heart out in all the anguish of maiden solitude, uncared for, unloved, and alone!"—were delivered with a mock-serious intensity that was absolutely irresistible. Nor was Miss Barreville at all behind Mrs. Umber in the representation of the contrasting Minnie Symperson. The gushing but very worldly-wise little *ingénue* was quite too charming, and there was no doubt that she was right in not pressing Cheviot too hard for settlements—"Papa dear, I have thought over the matter very carefully in my little baby-noddle, and I have come to the conclusion—don't laugh at me, dear papa—that it is my duty—my duty—to fall in with Cheviot's views in everything before marriage, and Cheviot's duty to fall into my views in everything after marriage. I think that is only fair, don't you?"—Miss Murray had only a small part as Parker, the pert little maid, but it was excellently performed, and we have seldom seen a more successful debut on the part of a lady. Mr. Super's Cheviot Hill was certainly the best thing he has yet done in Shanghai. The part, a favourite one of the late H. J. Byron, is the male part of the piece: it bristles with points, every one of which Mr. Super made effective, while he never permitted himself to become obtrusive. Mr. Sorrel, a debutant, was a very fair Belvawney, and when he has gained a little more confidence and manages his voice a little better, he will be a most useful addition to the Club. Mr. Umber shewed his usual care and study in the secondary rôle of Mr. Symperson; he is one of the most conscientious actors in the company. Mr. Hathaway made all that could be expected of the fire-eating Major McGillicuddy; and true to burlesque traditions, appeared on tour in the Lowlands in full scarlet uniform and cocked hat. The scenery reflected credit on Mr. Goodenough and his assistants, the decoration and furnishing of Mr. Symperson's drawing-room having been entrusted, as we learn from the programme, to the capable hands of the Hall & Holtz Co-operative Company. The town band under the direction of M. Vela, played a grateful selection of music; and we may safely say that the house would have been much more crowded—though it was sufficiently full—had the public had an idea that it might expect such an excellent performance; that the Club would justify so fully their boast in "Orpheus and Eurydice,"—"you'll find there's good fish in the (A.D.) Sea!"

NO. 1 CO., S.V.C., MONTHLY COMPETITION.

No. 1 Company Monthly Challenge Cup was shot for on Saturday morning. The weather was not favourable; the light was not good, and a puffy wind was blowing across the range. There were 13 competitors of whom Private Duncan Glass made the highest score of 54 points, but he was

handicapped, so Private Allan, with a total of 50 points, won the Cup for the first time.

The following are the scores over 40 :—

	200 yds.	Total.	500 yds.	Total.	Grand Total.
Priv. D. Glass	4434554-29	3354433-25	54		
" J. H. B. Allan	4430454-24	2283554-26	50		
" Stewart Smith	3425443-25	4313244-24	49		
Sergt. W. D. Little	3234534-24	2434352-23	47		
Corp. E. B. Dowley	2444422-22	2132444-23	45		
Priv. J. Valentine	2444444-26	0253132-19	45		

Correspondence.

MISSIONARY MEETINGS.

To the Editor of the

NORTH-CHINA DAILY NEWS.

SIR,—Mr. Bamford seems to deprecate criticism of Missionary Work, and to assume that it would take the form of missionary-baiting; and that in suggesting opportunities at which criticism might be offered, I have taken up different ground. In regard to the latter point I have only to say that in my first letter on this subject published in your issue of the 13th inst., the concluding paragraph expressly suggested that missionaries should "invite co-operation and criticism." If missionaries are afraid of criticism of their work by lay foreign residents in China, then it is wise to leave foreigners in ignorance of their work, but in that case they cannot expect co-operation, and sympathy. I believe that missionaries do not, and need not, fear criticism, and that they themselves would be surprised at the sympathy and support they would get, if they made it a part of their duty to try to win it. Laymen are very diffident about putting themselves forward in connection with religious or missionary work of any kind, and are ignorant both of what is being done in their own neighbourhood, and how they could take any part in it. The matter has now been sufficiently ventilated, and if anything is to be done in the direction I have indicated, it is for missionaries themselves to do it.

Yours, etc.,

D.

Shanghai, 31st March.

[We cannot publish any more letters on the point which has been discussed by Mr. Bamford and 'D.'—Ed.]

THE DUTY ON TEA.

To the Editor of the

NORTH-CHINA DAILY NEWS.

SIR,—Taking a broad view of the present position of the China tea trade, it appears to be necessarily an unsatisfactory one to those interested in it. Teas shipped from China are heavily handicapped by taxation, and can thus be undersold by the untaxed produce of other countries. It therefore seems to me that a considerable reduction of taxation is to be wished for by all interested in the prosperity of the trade.

Such reduction, in which foreigners and natives would alike participate, would not in my view result in any sudden and alarming increase in the yield, such as some persons appear to fear. Mr. Hertz says that we are now suffering from excess of tea, but a glance at statistics will show him that of late years this is not the case, the yearly supply of China tea falling considerably short of the consumption. Under these circumstances, a moderate increase in the yield is not to be dreaded, if accompanied by cheaper cost, and consequent increased consumption. We are not suffering from excess of tea, but from the effects of excessive taxation.

It is a favourite argument with some people that China tea buyers are solely to blame for the high cost of tea, and that a chaise is the embodiment of reckless extravagance. The Chinese, however, have

also a say in the matter, and although one side may have the chance of cornering the other occasionally, yet in the long-run the cost of the article is the most important factor in the final settlement of the price.

I am, Sir,

Yours faithfully,
C.

Shanghai, 6th April.

KEROSENE AND THE CONSULS.

To the Editor of the

NORTH-CHINA DAILY NEWS.

SIR,—I think you are too strong in your article this morning, and under a certain amount of misapprehension.

The Harbour Regulations are made by the Harbour Authorities not by the Consuls, the assent merely of the latter being required to render it possible to enforce them. In the present instance, the old Regulations having in some degree become inapplicable, the Harbour Master has made certain alterations to which with one exception the Consular Body has assented. This exception is a proposed alteration of the Rule confining the landing of kerosene to Section 9, the reason assigned for the alteration being merely that some godowns Messrs. Jardine, Matheson & Co. have rented and which they wish to utilize for the storage of kerosene are situated in Section 8. This reason the majority of the Consular Body consider insufficient. If it was necessary, they say, that kerosene-laden ships should be confined to Section 9 ten years ago, it is still more necessary now, and they refuse therefore their assent to the proposed alteration pending further consideration.

On the side of the inclusion of Section 8 it is urged that the only question the Consular Body should consider is whether granting permission to vessels carrying kerosene on the situation now proposed, would be likely to be dangerous or not, and it is argued that if it is shown that there is no real ground for objection on that score—and the Harbour authorities are of opinion that there is not—that they have no right to stand in the way of facilities being given to the Trade.

This view it is probable will ultimately prevail; for although one or two of the Consular Body may be rather hampered by their business relations, or by their having a personal interest in the matter, it is not to be supposed that they will allow private considerations to weigh against their public duty, and they will either stand aside altogether or vote as their consciences may dictate. As for the question whether one Consul should have equal votes with others representing larger interests, there are no doubt strong objections to this; but when it is remembered that though spoken of as a Body the corps has no existence as such, being merely a number of units who consult together but are unable to do more individually than affect the interests in each of their charges, it will be seen that the objection has no great weight. A majority of Consuls can only effect the enactment of a rule bearing upon the several nationalities they represent, and one dissentient is sufficient, so far as the interests he represents are concerned, to make the Regulation quite inoperative. Each Government makes rules for its own people; and all the Consuls do is to meet together to talk questions over and gather the general feeling on the subject, so that joint action and uniformity of rule shall be as far as possible assured. The Austrian Consul has as much right to object to a rule against the interest of his own one ship as the British Consul to those of his 1,200; neither controls the other; no rule made by one Consul affects more than his own nationality and the assent of even an overpowering majority does no more

than make it binding on those within their jurisdiction. Belgium cannot legislate for the United States, nor can the United States for Belgium.

Yours etc.,

AMICUS CURLE.

Shanghai, 6th April.

Law Reports.

IN H.B.M.'S SUPREME COURT FOR CHINA AND JAPAN.

IN ADMIRALTY.

Shanghai, 5th April, 1886.

Before Sir R. T. RENNIE, Kt., Chief Justice,

R. A. MOWAT, Esq., Assistant Judge, and

Capt. DONALD, Master of the }
Br. barge Kelferdale, }
Capt. HASLEWOOD, Master of } Assessors.
the Br. steamship Deccan, }

On Appeal from H.B.M.'s Court for Japan, at Kanagawa.

THE OWNERS OF THE BRITISH STEAMSHIP "GLAMORGANSHIRE" (WILLIAMS, MASTER, Defendants and Appellants,

THE CAPTAIN, OWNERS AND CREW OF THE AMERICAN SHIP "CLARISSA B. CARVER," Plaintiffs and Respondents.

And,
THE OWNERS OF THE BRITISH STEAMSHIP "GLAMORGANSHIRE" (Williams Master) defendants and appellants,

S. D. WARREN & Co., plaintiffs and respondents.

There was also an appeal from the decision of the Judge of the Court for Japan in a cross suit brought by the owners of the *Glamorganshire* against the Captain, owners and crew of the *Clarissa B. Carver*, the former here appearing as plaintiffs and appellants and the latter as defendants and respondents.

These were three cases arising out of a collision between the s.s. *Glamorganshire* and the American ship *Clarissa B. Carver*, on the night of the 7th June, 1885, the cross suits between the two vessels being in respect of damage to the ships and cargo, and the third suit being in respect of damage to cargo belonging to the plaintiffs. The cases were all decided by Mr. Justice Hannen in H.B.M.'s Court for Japan against the owners of the *Glamorganshire*.

The original petition of the owners, etc., of the *Clarissa B. Carver* alleged (1) that a good look-out was not kept on board the *Glamorganshire*; (2) that she did not keep out of the way of the *Clarissa B. Carver*; (3) that she did not slacken her speed or stop or reverse her engines prior to the collision; and (4) that she infringed articles 17, 18 and 20 of the Regulations for preventing collisions at sea. The defendants, in their original answer, contended that the *Clarissa B. Carver* was solely to blame for the collision, on the following grounds: (1) that the *Clarissa B. Carver* did not carry proper lights, or if she did they were not in a proper position and were not visible as by the Regulations for Preventing Accidents at sea provided; and (2) that the *Clarissa B. Carver* could by the exercise of proper care and precaution have avoided the collision. Mr. Justice Hannen having given judgment against the owners of the *Glamorganshire* on all these points, the owners of the latter appealed on the following grounds: (1) that the judgment improperly finds the lights of the *Clarissa B. Carver* to have been properly placed; (2) that the judgment improperly finds that the lights of the *Clarissa B. Carver* were unobscure, and of sufficient brilliancy to

comply with the Regulations; (3) that the judgment improperly finds that the *Clarissa B. Carver* could not by the exercise of proper care have avoided a collision, and that if she could have she could not under the circumstances be held to blame for not doing so; and (4) that the judgment improperly finds that the *Glamorganshire* did not keep a good look-out, and that this was the cause of the collision.

Mr. H. S. Wilkinson and Mr. R. E. Wainwright appeared for the owners of the *Glamorganshire*, and Mr. W. V. Drummond for Messrs. S. D. Warren & Co. The Captain, owners and crew of the *Clarissa B. Carver* were not represented, relying upon a long answer to the petition which they had filed, in which the evidence given in the Court below was reviewed as length.

Mr. WILKINSON said the first question, common to both cases—in which Mr. Drummond appeared and that between the owners of the two vessels—was, who was responsible for the collision? To save the time of the Assessors, it had been agreed between counsel to argue this question first, and leave certain legal questions affecting the case of Warren & Co. v. the *Glamorganshire* till afterwards, as these questions would be for the decision of their Lordships alone.

After half-an-hour's argument as to whether this course could be adopted, it was assented to.

Mr. WILKINSON then proceeded to review at length the voluminous evidence sent up from the Court below, with the object of showing that due care and diligence had been exhibited by the *Glamorganshire*, and that the fault of the collision did not rest with her.

The case was adjourned till 10 o'clock next morning.

A WOMAN'S SUFFERINGS AND GRATITUDE.

A VOICE FROM AUSTRIA.

Near the village of Zillingdorf, in Lower Austria, lives Maria Haas, an intelligent and industrious woman, whose story of physical suffering and final relief, as related by herself, is of interest to English women. "I was employed," she says, "in the work of a large farmhouse. Overwork brought on sick headache, followed by a deathly fainting and sickness of the stomach, until I was unable to retain either food or drink. I was compelled to take to my bed for several weeks. Getting a little better from rest and quiet, I sought to do some work, but was soon taken with a pain in my side, which in a little while seemed to spread over my whole body, and throbbed in my every limb. This was followed by a cough and shortness of breath, until finally I could not sew, and I took to my bed for the second, and, as I thought, for the last time. My friends told me that my time had nearly come, and that I could not live longer than when the trees put on their green once more. Then I happened to get one of the Seigel pamphlets. I read it, and my dear mother bought me a bottle of Seigel's Syrup, which I took exactly according to directions, and I had not taken the whole of it before I felt a great change for the better. My last illness began June 3rd, 1882, and continued to August 9th, when I began to take the Syrup. Very soon I could do a little light work. The cough left me, and I was no more troubled in breathing. Now I am perfectly cured. And oh, how happy I am! I cannot express gratitude enough for Seigel's Syrup. Now I must tell you that the doctors in our district distributed handbills cautioning people against the medicine, telling them it would do them no good, and many were thereby influenced to destroy the Seigel pamphlets; but now, wherever one is to be found, it is kept like a relic. The few preserved are borrowed to read, and I have lent mine for six miles around our

district. People have come eighteen miles to get me to buy the medicine for them, knowing that it cured me, and to be sure to get the right kind. I know a woman who was looking like death, and who told them there was no help for her, that she had consulted several doctors, but none could help her. I told her of Seigel's Syrup, and wrote the name down for her that she might make no mistake. She took my advice and the Syrup, and now she is in perfect health, and the people around us are amazed. The medicine has made such progress in our neighbourhood that people say they don't want the doctor any more, but they take the Syrup. Sufferers from gout who were confined to their bed and could hardly move a finger, have been cured by it. There is a girl in our district who caught a cold by going through some water, and was in bed five years with costiveness and rheumatic pains, and had to have an attendant to watch by her. There was not a doctor in the surrounding districts to whom her mother had not applied to relieve her child, but every one crossed themselves and said they could not help her. Whenever the little bell rang which is rung in our place when somebody is dead, we thought surely it was for her, but Seigel's Syrup and Pills saved her life, and now she is as healthy as anybody, goes to church, and can work even in the fields. Everybody was astonished when they saw her out, knowing how many years she had been in bed. To-day she adds her gratitude to mine for God's mercies and Siegel's Syrup."

MARIA HAAS.

The people of England speak confirming the above.

AFTER MANY YEARS.

"Whittle-le-Woods, near Chorley,

"December 26th, 1883.

"Dear Sir,—Mother Seigel's medicine sells exceeding well with us, all that try it speak highly in its favour. We had a case of a young lady that had been troubled many years with pains after eating. She tells us that the pains were entirely taken away after a few doses of your medicine.—Yours truly,

"E. Peel."

AFTER SEVERAL YEARS.

"Stoke Ferry, January 9th, 1884.

"Gentlemen,—I have used Siegel's Syrup for several years, and have found it a most efficacious remedy for Liver complaints and general debility, and I always keep some by me, and cannot speak too highly in its praise.—I remain, yours truly,

"Harriett King."

AFTER SIXTEEN YEARS.

"95, Newgate Street, Worksop, Notts,

"December 26th, 1883.

"Gentlemen,—It is with the greatest of pleasure I accord my testimony as to the efficacy of Mother Seigel's Syrup. My wife, who has suffered from acute Dyspepsia for over sixteen years, is now perfectly better through the sole help of your Syrup. I have spent pounds in medicines from doctors—in fact, I began to think she was incurable, until your marvellous medicine was tried.—I remain, yours, thankfully,

"Alfred Ford."

THE EFFECTS HAVE BEEN WONDERFUL.

"Ilford Road Dispensary, Dukinfield,

May 3rd, 1884.

"Dear Sir,—I am happy to inform you that the sale of your Syrup and Pills increases here continually. Several of my customers speak of having derived more benefit from the use of these than from any other medicine. In some instances the effects have been wonderful.—Yours very respectfully,

"Pro. Edwin Eastwood, J. B."

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n 2mr (c.a.) Z

OPIUM

RETURN FOR WEEK ENDING 3RD APRIL, 1886.

IMPORTED	MALWA		PATNA		BENARAS.		PURNIA.					
	Chests.	Weight.	Chests.	Weight.	Chests.	Weight.	Chests.	Weight.				
Imported and stored on board Receiving Vessels	1,206	1,206.00	385	464.00	40	48.00	7	7.00				
Returned from shore on board R. Vessels	278*	278.00	..	..	..	..	..	..				
Imported and transhipped for re-exportation without being stored on board Receiving Vessels or landed	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..				
Landed direct	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..				
Total	1,484	1,484.00	385	464.00	40	48.00	7	7.00				
Landed from Receiving Vessels and intended chiefly for Local consumption:	42	42.00	61	97.20	47	56.40	4	4.00				
RE-EXPORTED from board Receiving Vessels:—												
Description.	Chinkiang.	Wuhu.	Kiukiang.	Hankow.	Chefoo.	Tientsin.	Newchwang.	Ningpo.	Wenchow.	Swatow.	Hongkong.	Total.
	Chts. Wght.	Chts. Wght.	Chts. Wght.	Chts. Wght.	Chts. Wght.	Chts. Wght.	Chts. Wght.	Chts. Wght.	Chts. Wght.	Chts. Wght.	Chts. Wght.	Wght. Pcs.
Malwa	87 87.00	100 100.00	45 45.00	29 29.00	1 1.00	36 36.00		118 118.50				417 417.00
Patna	4 4.80			9 10.80		5 6.00						18 21.60
Benares	7 8.40											7 8.40
Persian												
Turkey												
Total..	98 100.20	100 100.00	45 45.00	38 39.80	1 1.00	41 42.00		118 118.50				432 447.00

* Imported 19th ultimo.

COMMERCIAL INTELLIGENCE.

SHANGHAI, 6th April, 1886.

PIECE GOODS.—Residents here connected with NEWCHWANG were scared on 2nd instant by the receipt of telegrams reporting the failure of two native hong (the in the Produce line, the other in the Godown way, wherever that may mean—liabilities stated variously at from £150,000 up to £250,000, and even some way beyond), and ordering a cessation of business until the actual state of matters had been ascertained. The letters to hand yesterday, however, are deemed assuring in tone, and, notwithstanding the telegrams, the dealers take a hopeful view of the situation. Evidently they have to some extent been living in disquieting suspense for some time past, and now that the crash has come they seem relieved rather than otherwise. Their written advices in effect are,—that fully half of their earlier shipments had been sold, and that the result—as a whole—is favourable. A confirmation of the improvement in the Cotton goods market up-river has this week been received from HANKOW, and things are described as fairly steady at TIENTSIN. The unsold stocks at the latter port are said to be small, and it is affirmed that receipts do no more than keep abreast of the demand; but a modification of shipments is recommended, if not enjoined on agents here, pending returns from the consuming districts—SIAM in particular—or information as to the probable upshot of the supplies sent inland since the opening of this season, and hence a short spell of quietness is to be feared. From our other dependencies the news of the week is uninteresting. CHEFOO still holds back for lower prices, taking meanwhile a little Bombay Yarn as before, and the CHINKIANG and NINGPO traders continue in the market with orders for good medium 8½-lbs. and the lower makes of the heavier weights of Shirtings, but the eastern markets remain flat, and it is worthy of note that Grey Shirtings are being returned to this from NAGASAKI.

Grey Shirtings.—8½-lbs.—The private business of the past week does not exceed 17,000 pieces. Demand has been slack, and has embraced only the good medium to best makes, quotations remaining without alteration since last reported on, or say on the lines of £1.47 for No. 2 Blue Butterfly, £1.53½ for Blue Swan, £1.53½ for Red Unicorn, £1.54 for Black Butterfly, £1.56 for Red Anchor, £1.56½ for Blue Anchor, £1.57 for Red Joss, £1.58 for No. 1 Blue Butterfly, £1.60 for Blue Dragon, £1.67½ for Blue Dragon King and £1.72 less ¾ for Eagle, and £1.73 nett for X. X. Eagle.

No private sales of either 6lbs. or 7lbs. goods to report; but over 14,000 pieces of 10lbs. a 11lbs., and 10,000 a 12,000 pieces of 12lbs. Dutch, English, and American have been reported settled, and the demand continues. There has been business done in both for arrival, but particulars have not been disclosed. The following quotations have been published, viz., 10 a 11lbs. —Steamer £1.97½, Red Butterfly £1.98½/2.00, Red Lion and Flag (double) £2.04/05, Red Two Man, and Dragon and Phoenix £2.10, Red Lion £2.30 per piece, &c., and 12lbs. from £2.25 for Dutch up to £2.22½ for American, and £2.45 for best English, and a firm market.

White Shirtings have scarcely a show again in the general report, the only transaction published being 500 pieces Three Feather 72-reed at £1.90 per piece. Moreover, the last heavy auction sale registered a lower range of prices for 64-reed.

T-Cloths.—Rates fell at last Thursday's public sale, and they were weaker at this morning's auction, but, in private, prices have been maintained, and with an improving enquiry likely to be so whilst stocks are so reduced. The business of this week, as reported, adds up a total of 15,500 pieces 7-lbs., 2,500 6-lbs., and 1,000 pieces 8-lbs., and the prices returned are:—

6-lbs.—Black Lion and Flag £0.81½, and Bat and Peach £0.80 per piece.

7-lbs.—Red and Blue Man and Fish £1.03½, Blue Double Man and Fish £1.05, Green Pagoda £1.06, Three Man and Fish £1.06½, Blue Rhinoceros £1.11, Gold Lion £1.15½, Red Dragon and Blue Butterfly £1.22, Red Man and Cash £1.25 per piece, Blue Cock £1.40, &c., and 8-lbs. Green Pagoda £1.19 per piece.

Drills.—American:—3,000 pieces PMC at £2.55 less 1½% tell of weakness on the part of holders of this item, albeit the ruling rate at Newchwang is £2.58, and exchange 5% premium. For a small quantity of Armitage's Beaver (English) £2.55 was paid early in the week, and 540 pieces Three Jays and 600 pieces Eagle and Fish have been placed at £2.05 and £2.25 per piece respectively, but the market has been far from active and at the close it is not over strong.

Sheetings.—Scarcely anything reported in either American or English, and in the absence of business rates have to be quoted nominal.

Jeans.—No demand.

Cotton Yarn.—Bombay spinings 16s. and 24s. are still enquired for, but, although £55½ and £58½ have been paid for Red Dragon, for other and less "special" chops buyers decline to pay last week's quotations and there has in consequence been less done in the import. Some 28/32s. English have been sold at, we believe, favourable rates, but particulars have not been disclosed. Enquiry for English Yarn is giving signs of revival.

Fancy Cottons.—No improvement whatever in this department to note. Turkey Reds, Prints, Velvets and Cotton Lastings have been offered at auction with but very indifferent results.

Woolens.—A speculative enquiry for Russian Cloths has landed about 1,500 pieces at from £15.50 per piece for Black (medium) up to £17.15 per piece for Indigo (good), but in other kinds of woollens there has been no business worth the name outside the auctions. Camlets, Lastings and Long Ells are said to be all selling at very favourable prices at Newchwang, but while the up-river trade remains stagnant the good news from the north is not likely to affect this market much. Spanish Stripes have not been in the running this week.

Metals.—From Mr. Alex. Bielfeld's Report:—There is little improvement in trade generally; news from the North, as well as from the river ports, is unsatisfactory, though statistics for the last month compared with the same period last year show in most instances a considerable increase both in imports and re-exports. LEAD—Has been in fair request during the week and rates have slightly advanced. Sales are:—100 tons L.B. to arrive at £4.35, 100 tons L.B. to arrive at £4.37½, 75 tons L.B. spot at £4.40. NAILROD IRON.—There has been very little doing under this heading, but the market is a shade firmer. 500 tons Schier's are reported sold at £1.50. In English there has been nothing doing. BAR IRON.—No business. PIG IRON.—Is in little demand, but prices remain fairly steady. OLD IRON.—Some 200 tons Horseshoes have been placed at £1.62½. In other descriptions there has been no business. TINPLATES.—Values are unchanged. Sales are: 200 boxes 10/14 and 200 boxes 14/20 at £4. STEEL.—Has remained steady. Sales are: 2,000 boxes Double Horse chop at £2.70, 180 boxes Double Horse chop at £2.77½, 600 boxes Anchor chop at £2.72½. SPALTER.—Nothing doing. STRAITS TIN.—This market is quiet but steady and prices continue to be maintained pretty firmly. Sales amount to some 300 slabs of all descriptions. COPPER AND YELLOW METAL SHEATHING.—Small business doing at quotations. JAPAN COPPER.—100 piculs tiles were placed at £12. Some 4,000 piculs tribute copper were shipped to Tientsin. IRON WIRE.—Has been in good demand. Sales reported are:—200 casks No. 12/25 at £4.15 and 200 casks 14/21 at £4. QUICKSILVER.—Is lower, but sales remain unimportant.

Quotations are :—Newchwang to Swatow, 20 cents per picul, nominal. Chefoo to Swatow, 15 Mex. cents per picul, for steamers, not regular coasters, nominal. Nagasaki to Shanghai, \$1.50 per ton of coal, landed terms, for steamers; \$1.25 ex ship, for sailing vessels, nominal.

(These rates include any cargo hence to Nagasaki for Charterer's account freight free.)

Keelung and back, no enquiry. Foochow and back, no enquiry.

Settlements during the fortnight have been :—*Strathleven*, British str. 1,583 tons Reg'ter, Kuchinotzu to Hongkong, \$1.10 per ton coal despatch. *Ingeborg*, British str. 436 tons, monthly charter for 1 month, \$2,200 per month. *Elsa*, German str. 576 tons, Newchwang to Whampoa, 21 Mex. cents per picul, 8 lay days. *Dorothy*, British barque, 310 tons, hence to Bankok, \$3,500 in full, 36 lay day. *Von Moltke*, British barque 687 tons, Burraril's Inlet to Sanghai, private terms. *John Potts*, British barque, 374 tons, Newchwang to Amoy, \$1,900 in full, 20 lay days. *Nierstein*, German steamer, 731 tons, Newchwang to Swatow, 20 Mex. cents per picul, 10 lay days.

Shares.—There has been more doing in Hongkong and Shanghai Bank shares and the price is higher than last week. The first transactions were at 183 per cent. premium and ex. 73; subsequently 185 and 186 premium and the same exchange has been done, and 188 and 189 per cent. premium and exchange 72, the latter premium and that exchange being equal to 185 prem. and ex. 73. New Oriental Banks have been placed at £10.7. In Insurance shares Unions have been sold at \$180; Yangtszes at \$120; and \$121; China Fires at \$81½ and 82 and ex. 73; Hongkong Fires at \$382½ to 387½ and at \$400 for the 30th June. Shanghai Gas Company's shares have sold at \$220 to 225. Shanghai and Hongkw Wharfs at \$164; Pootung Wharfs at from \$80 to 92½; Indo-China Shipping at \$35.50; China Shippers Mutual Shipping at £6 and exchange 4/7d., and Sheridan Mining at \$110 for the 31st December.

Exchange.—A small business has been done in sterling, and the rate has advanced ¼d per tael; and nothing in rupees during the week.

DAILY QUOTATIONS.

(From Messrs. Morris & Fergusson's Weekly Circular.)

	ON LONDON.								FRANCE.		HONGKONG.	INDIA. Rupees. T. transfers.
	T/Transfers.		Bank 4 m/s.		Credits 4 m/s.		Docty. 4 m/s.		Francs 4 m/s. and 6 do.			
	Lowest.	Highest.	Lowest.	Highest.	Lowest.	Highest.	Lowest.	Highest.	Lowest.	Highest.		
Thursday, 1st	4.6½	4.6½	4.7½	4.7½	4.7½	4.7½	4.7½	4.7½	5.86/89	5.86/89	27½	305½
Friday, 2nd	4.6½	4.6½	4.7½	4.7½	4.7½	4.7½	4.7½	4.7½	5.86/89	5.86/89	27½	305½
Saturday, 3rd	4.6½	4.6½	4.7½	4.7½	4.7½	4.7½	4.7½	4.7½	5.86/89	5.86/89	27½	305½
Monday, 5th	4.6½	4.6½	4.7½	4.7½	4.7½	4.7½	4.7½	4.7½	5.86/89	5.86/89	27½	305½
Tuesday, 6th	4.6½	4.6½	4.7½	4.7½	4.7½	4.7½	4.8	4.8	5.88/91	5.88/91	27½	305½
Wednesday, 7th ...	4.6½	4.7	4.7½	4.7½	4.7½	4.7½	4.8	4.8	5.88/91	5.88/91	27½	305½

AUCTION SALES.

COTTON GOODS.

Grey Shirtings.—8½-lbs.—Total for the week, 15,070 pieces.

At E-wo, 31st ultimo, 1,800 pieces *Tea Caddy*, X.X. Black, D.D.D. Blue, and Double Blue at £1.40½, £1.61½/61½ and £1.72½/73½ per piece, respectively.

At Yuen-fong, 1st instant, 6,970 pieces; at £1.17/17½ for *Green Lighthouse*, £1.19½ for *Two Man*, £1.20/20½ for *House*, £1.32½/32½ and £1.46½/48 for *Britannia*, Blue and Painted, £1.34½/35, £1.46½ and £1.52½ for *Four Sisters*, Blue, Red and Gold, £1.45 and £1.52½/53 for *Blue and Red Three Students*, and £1.59½/59½ for *Five Brothers*.

At Kin-ming, this morning, 4,300 pieces; at £1.30½/31½ and £1.44½ for *Blue and Gold Lions*, £1.19½, £1.28 and £1.35½ for *Green*, *Blue*, and *Red Pelican*, £1.19½, £1.27 and £1.35½ for *Green*, *Blue* and *Red Two Wing*, £1.45½ for *Blue Cock*, £1.50 for *Blue Crown*, 1.51½ for *Red Buffalo*, £1.55½/56 for *Red Eagle*, and £1.55½/55½ for *Red Ram*.

N.B.—The *Pelican*, *Two Wing*, and *Buffalo* chops, were not "bought in" at last week's King-ming sale; there was "no bid" for them.

At Pao-shun, this afternoon, 2,000 pieces; at £1.42/42½ for *Lion-on-Bale*, and £1.59½/59½ and £1.59½ for *Green Lion A.* and *A.A.* 6-lbs.—1,425 pieces; at £0.90½/90 for *Two Man*, £0.91½/91½ for *Blue Three Students*.

7-lbs.—1,740 pieces; at £1.10½ for *Blue Britannia*, £1.17½ for *Blue Four Sisters*, and £1.21½ for *Blue Three Students*.

10-lbs. and 11-lbs.—3,550 pieces; at £2.05½ and £2.22½/22½ for *Blue Tea Caddy* X.X. 10-lbs. and 11-lbs., £2.08½ for D.D.D., £1.92½/92½, £1.96½/97½ and £2.27½/27½ for *Britannia*, *Blue*, *Red* and *Painted*, £2.01½ and £2.32½ for *Three Students*, *Red* and *Painted*, and £2.05½/06 for *Red Four Sisters*.

12-lbs.—330 pieces *Soldier* and *Double Squirrel*, at £2.33½/33½ and £2.39½ per piece.

White Shirtings.—64-reed—4,950 pieces; at £1.46 for *Blue Star*, £1.33 and £1.32 for *House*, dressed and undressed, £1.39½/40 and £1.34½ for *Blue Lighthouse*, dressed and undressed, £1.33½ for *No. 888 House*, and £1.84 for *Green Eagle*.

72-reed.—4,320 pieces; at £1.83½/83½ for *Green Angler*, £1.87½/87½ *Red Two Sisters*, £1.90½ for *Blue Star*, £1.88½/89 and £1.88½ for *Red Lighthouse*, dressed and undressed, and £2.08/08½ and £2.09½ for *Gold Star*, dressed and undressed.

White Irishes.—550 pieces; at £2.00/04½ for *Green Boy*, and £2.20/20½ for *Green Star*, and £1.84 for *Lion and Stag*.

T-Cloths.—7-lbs., 3,450 pieces; at £1.00½/00½ for *Red Peacock*, £1.17½ for *Red Tea Caddy*, £1.01½/02½ and £1.24½/25 for *Blue* and *Painted Britannia*, £1.09½ and £1.31½ for *Blue* and *Red Three Students*, £1.29 and £1.33½ for *Eagle* X.X. and X.X.X., and £0.99½/99½ for *Green Eagle*, £0.99½ and £1.08/08½ for *Green* and *Blue Ram*, and £1.19½ for *Sun*.

8-lbs.—700 pieces; at £1.30½ for *Blue Lion*, £1.44½ and £1.49 for *Eagle* X.X. and X.X.X.

Drills.—English—620 pieces; at £1.58½/58½ for *Dragon*, £2.08 for *Stag*, £2.34½ for *Old Man Head*, and £2.38 for *Britannia*.

Jeans.—English—480 pieces *Peacock* and *Double Squirrel* at £1.33½ and £1.78½ per piece.

Sheetings.—English—300 pieces *Lion* and *Old Man* at £2.30½ and £2.45½/46 per piece; and 360 pieces *American*, *Old Lion*, damaged, at £2.45½/45½ per piece.

Cotton Yarn.—English, 10 bales at £63½/69, and £70 for 30/32s. *Gold Three Students*, and £56, £58½ and £60½ for *Red Three Students*.

Figured Orleans.—*Dragon Fish*, 40 pieces at \$2.87½ per piece.

Velvets—240 pieces *Woman and Venice* at \$0.13.2½/13.2 and \$0.13.2½ per yard.

Velveteens.—90 pieces 26-inch. *Stag* at \$0.17.9 per yard.

Turkey Reds.—2,000 pieces; at \$0.80/79 for 1½-lbs. *Monkey and Flower*, and \$0.88½, \$0.96½ and \$1.07½ for 2½-lbs., 2½-lbs. and 2½-lbs. *Gold Eagle*.

Cotton Italians.—168 pieces at from \$1.70 up to \$2.13 per piece.

WOOLLENS.

Auctions—	Scarlet.	Dk. Blue.	Gentian.	Green, and NewGreen.	Orange and Yellow.	Ash & Lav.	White	Purple	Black	Brown & Mag.	Mauve.	Lt. Gt.	Sales Pcs.
E-wo, 31st ultimo.	Tls.	Tls.	Tls.	Tls.	Tls.	Tls.	Tls.	Tls.	Tls.	Tls.	Tls.	Tls.	Pcs.
Camlets, Horseman p.p.	8.90	8.91	8.87	8.86	8.00/01	...	...	...	8.20	...	9.37	8.23/25	200
Sales, p.p....	70	10	30	10	30	...	...	...	10	...	10	30	
House, p.p....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
Sales, p.p....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
Warrior p.p....	8.48	7.90	8.42	8.20	7.30/38	...	...	...	7.15	...	9.01	7.53	200
Sales, p.p....	70	10	30	10	30	...	...	...	10	...	10	30	
Boar	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
Sales, p.p....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
Long Ells, H.D.B. p.p.	4.80/82	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	200
S.Strp., H.D.B. p.yd.	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
Eagle, p.p....	0.40/40.2	0.40½	0.44.2/44½	0.40.8	...	...	...	...	0.33½	...	...	...	96
Sales, p.p....	48	6	24	6	...	...	...	...	12	...	...	...	
Unicorn, p.p....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
Sales, p.p....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
JIN-KEE, 31st instant.	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
S.Stripes, Star, p.p....	0.41.1	...	0.44.4	0.41.2	0.41.2	...	...	0.43½	...	...	9.44½	...	84
Sales, p.p....	48	...	12	6	3	...	...	6	...	...	6	...	
YUEN-FONG, 1st inst.	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
Camlets, S.S.G. p.p.c.	9.40	10.50/57½	9.47½/52½	9.80	10.37½/40	...	...	...	...	...	9.45/47½	9.60/80	560
Sales, p.p....	240	90	130	10	20	...	...	...	...	...	30	40	
G.G., p.p.c....	9.62½	10.65/67½	9.55/57½	...	10.47½	...	11.12½	...	...	...	9.60	9.75	300
Sales, p.p....	120	50	70	...	20	...	10	...	...	...	10	20	
Stork	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
Sales, p.p....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
Long Ells, G.G., p.p....	4.86	4.54	4.95	5.39	...	...	5.20	...	...	...	...	...	200
Sales, p.p....	120	20	20	20	...	...	20	...	...	...	...	...	
Lastings, G.G., p.p.c....	...	...	8.70	...	...	...	...	...	8.70/72½	...	...	9.02½	200
Sales, p.p....	...	...	20	...	...	...	...	...	240	...	...	40	
Man & Tiger	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
Sales, p.p....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
S.Stripes, T.T.B.	0.45½/46½	0.47½	0.48½	...	0.48	0.47½	...	0.45½	...	...	...	...	126
Sales, p.p....	66	12	30	...	6	6	...	6	...	...	...	...	
Man & Tiger	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
Sales, p.p....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
KIN-MING, To-day.	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
Camlets, Eagle p.p.c....	9.75/85	10.53/72½	9.54/60	9.38	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	9.68	130
Sales, p.p....	60	20	20	10	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	20	
S.S.	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
Sales, p.p....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
Duck	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
Sales, p.p....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
Tiger, S.S.	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
Sales, p.p....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
Lastings, C.P.H. p.p.c....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
Sales, p.p....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
Elephant p.p....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
Sales, p.p....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
S.Stripes, C.P.H. p.p.c....	0.45/45.3	0.42.3	...	0.46.3	0.45	0.45	...	0.45	0.42.9	0.44	0.46.3	0.48.9/19.2	138
Sales, p.p....	72	6	...	3	3	3	...	3	12	3	3	24	
SIN-WO, To-day.	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
Camlets, Owl, p.p.	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
Sales, p.p....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
Gold Fish, P.P.P....	8.98	9.70	9.28	9.20	8.72	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	100
Sales, p.p....	40	20	10	10	20	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
Angler, R.R.R....	8.77	8.54	8.59	8.30	8.05	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	50
Sales, p.p....	10	10	10	10	10	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
Long Ells, H.H., p.p....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
Sales, p.p....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
Lastings, H.H., p.p....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	8.19	...	...	...	80
Sales, p.p....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
S.Stripes, H.H.	0.45.6	0.46.6	0.49.6	0.46.7	0.47.7	...	...	...	0.46.6	...	...	...	216
Sales, p.p....	108	18	54	24	6	...	...	...	6	...	...	...	
Gold Fish, P.P.P....	0.41.2	0.41.1	0.46	0.44.3	...	...	...	...	0.40	...	...	...	
Sales, p.p....	36	6	18	6	...	...	...	...	6	...	...	...	72

MISCELLANEOUS EXPORTS.

Per Str. "NAGOYA MARU," cleared 30th March, for NEW YORK.—Musk 0.05- $\frac{1}{16}$ picul.

Per Str. "AVA," cleared 31st March, for LONDON.—Strawbraid 405.42 piculs. Wool—camels' 16.24 piculs. For PARIS.—Musk 0.12- $\frac{1}{16}$ picul. For BORDEAUX.—Hides 339.78 piculs. For MARSEILLE.—Fishmaws 8 piculs. Musk 0.02½ picul. Hides 48.91 piculs. Rhubarb 10.67 piculs. Skins—goats 3,000. For ODESSA.—Hides 81.33 piculs. For LEGHORN.—Hides 223.14 piculs. For GENOA.—Hides 39.96 piculs. For BARCELONA.—Hides 215.50 piculs.

Per Str. "PATROCLUS," cleared 2nd April, for LONDON.—Feather 70.59 piculs. Hair—horses 3.70 piculs. Musk 0.14½ picul. Rhubarb 24.40 piculs. Strawbraid 281.55 piculs. Rugs—goatskin 180. For NEW YORK.—Nutmalls 319.50 piculs. Strawbraid 234.11 piculs. For HAMBURG.—Coir 1.90 piculs. Rhubarb 9.63 piculs. For BREMEN.—Rhubarb 14.18 piculs.

QUOTATIONS—DUTY PAID.				DUTY.		QUOTATIONS—DUTY PAID.				DUTY.	
				Tls. m. c.						Tls. m. c.	
G. E. GREY SHIRTINGS—				T.m.c. T.m.c.							
6-lbs 39-in 38½-yds.....	nom	¢	pc.	0.8.8	to 1.0.5	PRINTED TWILLS—24,25 yds				¢	pc.
7-lbs	"	"	"	0.9.7½	1.2.5	50/52				"	"
Dewhurst's Eagle	"	"	"	None		Special ...				"	"
8½ to 8½-lbs	"	"	"	1.1.0	1.6.5	TURKEY REDS—					
D. Eagle and XX	"	"	"	1.7.0	1.7.3	24-yd 1½ to 3-lbs. 32-in, nom				¢	pc.
9 to 9½-lbs	nom	"	"	1.8.0	1.9.0	Best				"	"
9½ to 10-lbs	"	"	"	1.8.5	2.2.0						
Dewhurst's, Best	"	"	"	2.1.0	2.3.5						
11 to 12-lbs English 36 in..	"	"	"	2.0.5	2.4.2	VELVETS—Black, 22-in...nom				¢	yd.
12-lbs American 32/56 in...	"	"	"	2.2.0	2.4.5	VELVETRENS—Black, 18-in ...				"	"
						26-in				"	"
G. E. WHITE SHIRTINGS—						BLUE DENIMS				nom	"
40-yds 36-in 56-rd.....	¢	pc.	1.1.5	1.3.0	DIMITIES—12-yd 37-in				¢	pc.	
60-reed	"	"	1.2.0	1.3.5	41-in				"	"	
64	"	"	1.2.8	1.7.5	MUSLINS—12-yd 42-in				"	"	
64 .. Best and 66-reed ...	"	"	1.6.5	1.8.7½	YARN—COTTON—Nos. 28/32 ..				"	"	
72 to 80-reed	"	"	1.7.5	2.2.0	16/24, nom ..				"	"	
Best	"	"	2.1.0	3.4.0	CAMLETS—English, SS.....				¢	pc.	
DRILLS, Am. 40-yd 30-in 14-lbs	¢	pc.	2.4.5	2.5.5	GG				"	"	
English, 14 to 15-lbs ...	"	"	1.5.0	1.9.0	SSG				"	"	
Good to Finest	"	"	1.9.5	2.5.5	HDB				"	"	
Dutch, 14 to 14½-lbs..nom	"	"	2.0.0	2.3.0	CPH				"	"	
JRANS, Dh., 30-yd 30-in 8½-lbs	¢	pc.	1.4.0	1.6.8	Dutch, 33 to 24-in nom.				"	"	
English, 8 to 8½-lbs	"	"	1.3.0	1.7.5	Do. 37-in				"	"	
American, Beaver.....	"	"	1.5.0	1.9.5	MEDIUM & BROAD CLOTHS ..				¢	yd.	
SHEETINGS—						SPANISH STRIPES				"	"
Am., 40-yd 36/38-in 14-lb. nom.	¢	pc.	2.2.5	2.6.0	HDB				"	"	
Eng., 14 to 16-lb. ..	"	"	1.5.0	2.5.0	TTB				"	"	
T-CLOTHS—						HH				"	"
6-lbs 24-yd 32-in Ord., nom	¢	pc.	0.7.5	0.9.0	BTI				"	"	
7-lbs	"	"	0.8.0	0.9.5	CPH				"	"	
6-lbs Mexican.....	"	"	"	none	LONG ELLS—						
7-lbs	"	"	0.9.5	1.3.0	Scarlet, 24-yd GG.....				¢	pc.	
7-lbs Mexican Special chops	"	"	1.2.5	1.7.5	HH.....				"	"	
8 to 8½-lbs	"	"	1.0.5	1.6.0	CPH..nom.				"	"	
Better kinds and XX	"	"	1.7.2½	2.0.0	UU				"	"	
HANDKERCHIEFS—						HDB				"	"
Blue, 28 to 32-in	¢	doz.	0.4.0	0.5.5	V				"	"	
Brown	nom	"	0.3.7½	0.4.1	Sundries ..				"	"	
SPOTTED SHIRTINGS—White.	¢	pc.	1.8.0	2.0.0	Assorted, HH				"	"	
Dyed, nom	"	"	2.0.0	2.3.0	CPH.....				"	"	
BROCADES—White, 40-yd ...	"	"	1.8.5	2.0.0	GG.....				"	"	
Dyed	"	"	2.2.0	2.4.5	UU				"	"	
DAMASKS—Dyed, 40-yd, nom	"	"	2.2.5	3.7.5	LASTINGS, 30-yd				¢	pc.	
GENTIAN SHIRTINGS.....	"	"	1.8.5	2.2.0	GRAPE LASTINGS, 30-yd nom				"	"	
CHINTZ—Assorted	¢	pc.	1.0.0	1.4.0	GRAPE LUSTRES.....				"	"	
Blue	"	"	0.9.0	1.1.5	PLAIN LUSTRES, Black.....				"	"	
Brown.....nom	"	"	1.1.0	1.2.0	ORLEANS—Figured, 30-yd ...				"	"	
Scarlet	"	"	1.2.0	1.4.0	Special Colors & Patterns				"	"	

Per Chang of 141 inches.

Per Chain of 141 inches.

METALS.		QUOTATIONS.		SUNDRIES.		QUOTATIONS.	
		T.M.C.	T.M.C.			T.M.C.	T.M.C.
JAPAN COPPER—Tiles, best	per picul	12.0.0	@ 12.7.5	SUGAR—		4.7.5	@ 5.2.5
" Ore	"	10.8.0	to 11.2.0	White, Canton, No. 1	per picul	4.5.5	" 4.8.5
QUICKSILVER—American	"	45.0.0	to 46.0.0	" " " 2	"	3.8.5	" 4.1.5
TIN PLATES—Parson's.....	per box	3.7.0	" 3.9.0	White, Swatow, No. 1	"	4.8.5	" 5.2.5
Other brands.....	"	3.6.0	" 3.7.0	" " " 2	"	4.7.5	" 5.1.5
STEEL, Plain	per picul	2.5.5	" 2.6.5	" " " 3	"	3.9.5	" 4.3.5
Bamboo	"	2.7.0	" 2.8.0	Brown, Canton, Best.....	"	3.0.0	" 3.3.0
TIN, Fong Hing	"	26.2.0	"	" Common.....	"	2.8.0	" 3.0.0
Fok Chok	"	26.0.0	"	" Swatow, Best.....	"	3.3.0	" 3.5.0
Sok-kong and other brands	"	25.0.0	"	" Common.....	"	2.8.0	" 3.0.0
PIO IRON	per ton	16.5.0	" 22.0.0	PEPPER—Black	"	15.0.0	" 17.0.0
IRON WIRE, Nos. 11 & 21	nom. per picul	3.8.0	" 4.0.0	White	"	25.5.0	" 31.5.0
" " 14 & 25	"	3.8.5	" 4.0.0	HATTANS—Common	"	3.0.0	" 3.2.0
" " 18 & 25	"	4.1.0	" 4.2.5	Best	"	5.2.0	" 6.2.0
IRON—Nail Rod—				SAFAN WOOL.....	per picul	1.7.0	" 4.4.0
Dawson's Best	per picul	1.9.0	" 1.9.5	SAN DAI WOOD, South Sea	"	2.9.0	" 3.2.0
Staffordshire	"	1.8.2½	" 1.9.0	Timor	"	7.0.0	" 8.0.0
Belgian, common	"	1.4.7½	" 1.5.2½	Malabar	"	11.5.0	" 12.5.0
Solier	"	1.4.7½	" 1.5.2½	WINDOW GLASS—			
English—Bar.....	"	1.6.0	" 1.9.0	Good assortments	per box	2.3.0	" 2.3.5
Belgian	"	1.5.5	" 1.7.0	KEROSENE—Devoe's	per case	1.2.4	"
Swedish	"	2.8.5	" 3.1.0	FLINT STONES	per picul	0.4.0	" 0.6.2
LEAD—				COTTON—Shanghai, best.....	"	10.6.0	" 11.5.0
I. B	"	4.3.7½	" 4.4.0	Compoek	"	10.7.0	" 11.6.0
Euthoven.....	"	4.3.5	" 4.3.7½	RICE—Shanghai	p. 150 cat.	3.1.0	" 3.3.0
				Chinkiang.....	"	2.8.0	" 3.0.0
				HIDES—Cow	per picul	13.2.0	" 13.5.0

Statement of Imports and Deliveries of Cotton and Woollen Piece Goods for the week ending 5th April, 1886, compiled from the "Customs Daily Returns," Nos. 71 to 76, both numbers inclusive.

GOODS.	RE-EXPORTS AND THEIR DESTINATIONS.															
	Ningpo.	Wenchow.	Chinkiang.	Wuhu.	Kiangling.	Hankow.	Chafu.	Tientsin.	Nanchang.	Foochow.	Hongkong.	Nagasaki.	Higo.	Yokohama.	Cebu.	Local.
Grey Shirtings †.....Pcs.	4,720	300	12,270	520	4,165	15,350	2,380	15,680	20,315	3,085	1,000	300	...	...	...	9,480
T-Cloths, 32-in.	2,165	855	1,660	220	1,485	1,730	2,090	9,111	16,070	11,675	...	300	...	...	...	1,780
" 36-in.	1,570	...	...	...	...	900	...	...	150	60	...	...	...	...	...	400
White Shirtings	1,310	30	2,210	500	650	8,938	1,670	6,380	5,837	610	...	...	350	400	...	1,075
Drills, English & Dutch	...	...	30	...	...	...	1,310	3,780	2,800	150	...	...	100	...	...	60
" American	...	...	255	...	...	120	75	5,055	18,465	15	...	...	...	...	...	210
Jeans, English & Dutch	70	...	...	...	...	80	140	1,690	100	...	...	...	...	...	...	80
" American	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	100	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Sheetings, English	...	...	360	160	110	1,830	...	120	5,320	...	...	...	...	...	...	100
" American	...	...	...	...	120	180	500	13,540	26,070	...	...	...	...	...	...	320
Dyed Shirtings	390	...	2,330	...	...	...	...	50	389	...	...	...	...	...	...	50
Brocades & Sp. Stings, White	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	30	130	...	...	...	...	...	...	100
" Dyed	...	...	99	...	150	330	250	600	2,230	350	...	...	...	...	...	40
Damasks, Dyed	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	220
Chintzes	120	...	310	60	260	360	80	3,597	3,423	460	...	...	...	...	...	150
Printed T-Cloths	110	...	230	...	...	60	...	1,927	...	300	...	...	...	...	...	80
Printed Twills	...	...	80	...	...	160	...	800	2,800	...	...	...	...	...	...	108
Turkey Red Shirtings	230	50	551	...	150	200	722	3,212	5,604	490	...	...	...	...	...	60
Velvets	...	...	30	24	90	...	...	30	30	30	...	...	...	...	...	90
Velveteens	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1,338	...	...	...	...	...	...	300
Handkerchiefs	...	...	590	...	400	720	...	200	1,120	600	...	...	...	...	...	300
Muslins	100	...	200	100	...	490	200	600	200	...	...	...	10	...	...	300
Dimities	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	200
Cotton Yarn	...	...	...	...	258	351	537	1,057	2,454	...	...	...	...	3	30	...
Spanish Stripes	24	6	120	12	6	96	60	72	444	60	...	...	...	...	...	24
Medium and Broad Cloths	...	...	12	...	6	104	60	200	330	34	...	...	...	...	...	48
Camlets	50	70	160	30	110	250	30	380	600	190	...	...	...	...	...	140
Long Ellis	20	...	40	...	...	180	...	100	440	40	...	...	100	...	...	120
Lastings	...	20	60	...	20	290	40	680	4,100	80	...	...	...	...	...	60
" Crape	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	20	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Lastings, Cotton & Italians	70	...	167	30	40	1,269	860	2,759	3,270	20	...	...	3	...	...	80
Lastings, Plain	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	200	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	100
" Figured	...	...	420	60	60	240	...	120	280	180	...	...	...	...	...	120
" Crape	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Lead in Pigs	69	...	...	22	330	801	...	...	1,330	2,881	...	...	...	...	...	...
Iron—Nail Rod	...	...	...	63	365	855	...	2,352	3,990	...	...	...	...	...	...	...

GOODS.	TOTAL DELIVERIES.			TOTAL IMPORTS.			STOCKS AT DATE ARE BASED ON THE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE RETURNS, DATED 1ST JAN., 1886.	
	As above.	For Year From 1st Jan 1886.	Against last year same term.	For the Week.	For Year From 1st Jan 1886.	Against last year same term.	*At date Estimated.	Against 6th April, 1886.
Grey Shirtings †.....Pcs.	90,155	1,128,287	1,232,859	39,060	1,019,702	1,100,299	856,400	955,100
T-Cloths, 32-in.	54,061	286,717	334,677	11,280	231,189	266,086	222,300	356,300
" 36-in.	3,240	36,495	33,290	260	65,385	79,372	112,960	163,200
White Shirtings	30,390	382,998	335,059	16,704	378,361	390,349	413,700	304,600
Drills, English and Dutch	8,860	62,280	36,940	3,760	104,275	38,915	75,150	61,800
" American	24,195	77,450	32,530	3,750	116,700	63,075	53,750	39,500
Jeans, English and Dutch	2,160	33,946	19,900	2,200	27,675	22,820	16,800	28,250
" American	100	3,820	860	...	...	6,000	4,700	17,500
Sheetings, English	8,000	52,595	57,118	1,604	67,698	60,008	93,200	79,500
" Am.	40,755	237,470	136,315	17,940	299,165	183,860	249,000	134,900
Dyed Shirtings	3,159	25,402	10,635	...	21,238	34,487	1,800	29,800
Bro. & Spot, Shirts, White	210	1,209	336	400	4,583	498	5,800	3,500
" Dyed	4,109	12,390	7,362	747	11,992	6,524	12,230	455
Damasks, Dyed	40	987	1,040	23	23	474	...	2,300
Chintzes	8,890	52,551	35,278	8,715	103,840	30,579	104,200	50,000
Printed T-Cloths	2,777	21,167	12,699	686	17,660	24,306	55,060	...
Printed Twills	3,920	26,353	26,941	2,299	52,659	26,211	102,440	81,800
Turkey Red Shirtings	11,459	82,432	92,811	...	67,744	73,830	153,300	76,000
Velvets	294	8,146	6,346	1,410	14,916	11,524	22,100	5,500
Velveteens	1,428	2,704	2,796	96	10,679	2,231	10,080	420
Handkerchiefs	3,930	47,597	54,036	1,500	44,535	20,583	93,800	104,700
Muslins	4,200	79,208	45,515	4,658	114,328	43,756	115,880	79,600
Dimities	200	800	500	...	510	6	...	...
Cotton Yarn	4,690	32,487	10,761	4,113	33,804	9,105	20,940	5,200
Spanish Stripes	924	9,862	8,632	882	13,715	9,776	18,300	10,100
Medium and Broad Cloths	829	4,350	3,912	87	6,029	4,487	16,180	19,700
Camlets	2,050	21,690	22,503	2,980	22,936	17,262	17,700	12,200
Long Ellis	1,040	14,131	19,830	1,400	18,989	13,000	10,300	15,200
Lastings	5,370	24,485	21,484	3,317	33,020	23,136	34,100	22,450
" Crape	20	300	540	...	360	800	1,260	1,260
Cotton Lastings & Italians	8,646	97,090	87,320	14,960	135,403	92,795	193,300	86,700
Lastings, Plain	300	950	924	...	900	658	1,400	...
" Figured	1,480	14,008	13,809	918	19,736	10,289	32,700	13,000
" Crape	...	3	...	...	...	...	797	...
Lead in Pigs	5,433	43,729	20,609	6,834	39,411	32,472	...	...
Iron—Nail Rod	7,625	52,157	40,668	11,760	89,977	21,924	...	...

* Exclusive of Import Cargoes ex *River Nith, Laertes, Cyclops, Melbourne, Chingchow, Rhodora, Yangtze-Polyhymnia, Prometheus, Deccan, and Patroclus.*

Import Cargoes declared *Hydaspes* and *Glenroy*, and additional ex *Ulysses, Menelaus, Glenearn, and Kelverdale.*

† Including English and Dutch 12-lbs.

COMMERCIAL POSTSCRIPT.

7TH APRIL, 1886

EXCHANGE.—On London—Telegraphic Transfer, 4s. 6½d. a 4s. 7d.; Bank Bills, demand, 4s. 7½d. a 4s. 7½d.; Bank Bills, 4 months' sight, 4s. 7½d.; a 4s. 7½d. First-class Credit to Banks, 4 months' sight, 4s. 7½d., 6 months' sight, 4s. 8½d. Private and Documentary, 4 months' sight, 4s. 8d.; 6 months' sight, 4s. 8½d. On France—Bank Bills, demand, Fcs. 5.78, Credits and Documentary Bills, 4 months' sight, 5.88; 6 months' sight, 5.91. On New York—Credits and Documentary Bills, 4 months' sight, 87½. On Hongkong—Telegraphic Transfers, 27½; Private Bills, 3 days' sight, 28½. On Bombay—Telegraphic Transfers, Rs. 305½; Calcutta, Rs. 305½. Bullion—Gold Bar, Pekin, 98 touch, £211.50. Silver Bars, £111.15. Mexican Dollars, £73.40. Copper Cash, 1,480.

SHARES.

Hongkong & Shanghai Banking Corporation.—There is rather more business to report in this stock. On the 1st instant shares changed hands at 183% premium and exchange 73. A demand from Hongkong set in, and business was done on the 2nd at 183%, 183½% and 184% premium and exchange 73, and to Hongkong at 188% premium and 72. On the 3rd sales were made at 184% and 73, and on the 5th local business was done at 184½% and 73, and to Hongkong at 189% and 72, equal to 185% and 73. Yesterday business was done at 185% and 186% premium and exchange 73.

New Oriental Bank Corporation, Limited.—Shares have been sold at £10.7.0 and exchange 4/7.

Shanghai Tug Boat Association.—Buyers offers £90 for shares.

Indo-China Steam Navigation Co.—One or two lots have changed hands at £35½.

Shanghai Gas Co.—Shares have been sold at £220 to £225, and are wanted.

Union Insurance Society of Canton, Limited.—One or two lots have been placed at \$480.

Yangtze Insurance Association, Limited.—A number of shares have been sold at £120½ and £121.

Hongkong Fire Insurance Co.—Several lots of shares were placed at \$382½ and 73. Afterwards a demand set in, and business was done yesterday at \$385 to \$387½ for cash, and \$400 for 30th June.

China Fire Insurance Co.—Several lots have been placed at \$81½ to \$82 and exchange 73. The market is strong with buyers.

Shanghai & Hongkew Wharf Co.—The market has been quiet since the 31st ultimo. The only sales reported are 2 shares at £160, and a lot at £164.

Footung Wharf & Godown Co.—Shares were sold on the 31st at £80, next day a strong demand set in, and about 250 shares were sold at from £82½ to £90. On the 2nd £92½ were paid for shares. There has no business been reported in the stock since. Shares are offering at £92½.

Sheridan Mining Co.—Shares were placed at £110 for delivery on 31st December, Cash shares are procurable at £90.

Shanghai Cargo Boat Co.—There are buyers at £151, while shares are held for £155.

Co-operative Cargo Boat Co.—There are buyers at £52½.

China Shippers' Mutual S. N. Co.—A lot of shares changed hands at £6 exchange 4/7.

Shanghai Electric Co.—The Directors' Report and Accounts for 1885 were presented and passed at a meeting of shareholders held on the 2nd inst. The Working Account shows a loss of £932.30. The net loss shown by the Working Accounts for four years is £12,413.36. The Assets consist of plant costing £53,048.72, and the Liabilities, exclusive of capital, amount to £23,015.33.

SHARES.	No.	Value.	Paid up.	POSITION PER LAST REPORT.			LAST DIVIDEND, &c.		CASH QUOTATIONS.
				Reserve.	At Working Account.	Date.	To Shareholders.	When pd. or due.	
<i>Bank.</i>									
Hongkong & Shanghai Bank Co.	60,000	\$125	\$125	4,500,000.00	\$63,800.38	31 Dec. 85	* £2½	1 Mar. 86	186%
New Oriental Bank Corp., Ltd.	50,000	£10	£10	.....	.....	.....	5 %	30 Sept. 85	£10.7
<i>Shipping.</i>									
Shanghai Tug Boat Association	1,000	£100	£100	\$14,304.62	.....	31 Mar. 85	|| 2 %	11 Jan. 86	£90
Indo-China Steam Nav. Co.	60,000	£10	£10	\$2,802.38	£117.16.7	31 Dec. 84	+ 3 %	4 Aug. 85	£35½
Shanghai Shipping Co.	150	£1,000	£1,000	.....	.....	.....	+ 5 %	3 Aug. 85	£700
<i>Docks.</i>									
Shanghai Dock Co.	440	£500	£500	\$12,000.00	\$5,799.99	31 Dec. 85	* 2 %	15 Jan. 86	325
Footung Dock Co.	950	£100	£100	.....	\$1,622.69	31 Dec. 85	* 5 %	15 Jan. 86	130
<i>Gas.</i>									
Shanghai Gas Co.	1,500	£100	£100	\$51,794.47	\$47,565.04	31 Dec. 85	* 6 %	17 Jan. 86	225
Compagnie du Gaz	500	£100	£100	\$17,134.69	\$89.92	31 Dec. 85	* 6 %	2 Mar. 86	167½
<i>Insurance (Marine.)</i>									
China Traders' Insurance Co., Limited	24,000	\$83.33	\$25	\$600,000.00	\$200,773.71	30 Apr. 85	18 %	11 Aug. 85	\$72
North-China Ins. Co., Ltd.	5,000	£200	£50	\$100,671.24	\$461,023.02	30 June 85	£20.00	5 May 85	£300
Union Ins. Society of Canton Ltd.	2,000	\$1,250	\$125	\$575,000.00	\$439,089.41	30 June 85	\$31.00	12 Oct. 85	\$480
Yangtze Insurance Ass'n Ltd.	8,000	£25	£25	\$85,000.00	\$92,142.93	31 Mar. 85	* 3½ %	18 Jan. 86	£121
Chinese Insurance Co., Limited	1,500	\$1,000	\$200	\$28,711.50	\$2,868.89	31 Dec. 85	* 3 %	6 Oct. 85	\$187½
Canton Insurance Office	10,000	£250	\$50	\$155,000.00	\$465,214.43	30 Sep. 85	+ 10 %	11 Jan. 86	\$85
<i>Insurance (Fire.)</i>									
Hongkong Fire Ins. Co., Limited	8,000	£250	\$50	\$1,000,000.00	\$283,482.55	31 Dec. 85	+ 55 %	3 Mar. 86	\$387½
China Fire Ins. Co., Limited	20,000	£100	\$20	\$66,700.00	\$168,811.67	31 Dec. 85	+ 30 %	2 Mar. 86	\$82
<i>Wharfs.</i>									
Shanghai & H'kew Wharf Co.	2,867	£100	£100	\$71,700.00	£68.83	31 Dec. 85	* 5 %	23 Feb. 86	£164
Brit's Wharf Hide-Curing and Wool-Cleaning Company	2,100	£50	£50	\$3,449.46	\$2,149.50	31 Oct. 85	* 3½ %	7 Jan. 86	£30 for 1 May
Footung Wharf & Godown Co.	1,750	£100	£100	.....	\$9,418.94	31 Dec. 85	+ 4½ %	9 Feb. 86	£92½
<i>Mining.</i>									
Selangor Tin Mining Co.	2,500	\$100	\$100	.....	£90,190.79	18 Dec. 84	None.		\$3
Perak Tin Mining & Smelting Co.	5,000	\$50	\$50	.....	£2,552.08	31 Dec. 85	None.		\$15
Sheridan Mining Co.	2,800	£100	£100	.....	£1,600.76	31 Dec. 85	£4½	22 Dec. 85	£90
<i>Cargo Boats.</i>									
Shanghai Cargo Boat Co.	1,000	£200	£200	\$6,710.47	.....	31 Dec. 85	* 5 %	3 Mar. 86	£151
Co-operative Cargo Boat Co.	1,000	£100	£100	\$1,000.00	£595.07	31 Dec. 85	+ 5 %	13 Feb. 86	£52½
<i>Miscellaneous.</i>									
Shanghai Waterworks Co., Ltd.	6,000	£20	£20	\$5,000.00	\$85.11.10	31 Dec. 84	+ 4 %	14 May 85	£31½
Perak Sugar Cultivation Co.	5,000	£50	£50	.....	£122,192.29	.....	None.		£20
The Hall & Holtz Co-op'rative Co.	6,000	£50	£50	.....	£2,632.52	28 Feb. 85	£2½		£33

LOANS.	Amount of Loan.	Outstanding.	Nominal Value.	Rate of Interest.	When Payable.	Closing.
Shanghai Mun. Debentures—Issue 1875	£ 42,800.00	£ 15,000.00	£ 100	8 %	Dec. & June.	£104 nom.
Do.	£ 24,000.00	£ 24,000.00	£ 100	8 %	Do.	£103
Do.	£ 60,000.00	£ 60,000.00	£ 100	7 %	1 o.	£105 nom.
Do.	£ 45,000.00	£ 45,000.00	£ 100	7 %	Do.	£105
Do.	£ 30,000.00	£ 30,000.00	£ 100	7 %	Do.	£105 "
China Merchants' S.N. Co. Debentures	£ 300,000	All.	£ 100	7 %	Quarterly	£105½
Chinese Imperial Government Loan 1881	S. \$4,384,000	S. \$2,192,000.00	£ 500	8 %	May & Nov.	£510
Do.	1884 A	\$1,394,700.14	£ 500	8 %	Yearly.	\$ 500 nom.
Do.	1884 B	1,394,700.14	£ 500	8 %	Do.	½ pre. ex int.
Do.	1884 C	\$1,594,700.14	All.	8 %	Do.	\$525 ex int.
Do.	1885	\$1,394,700.14	All.	8 %	Do.	500 ex int., nom.

* For half-year. || For quarter year, + For year. ‡ A deficit. § Reserve for equalization of dividends. (a) At credit of underwriting account

J. P. BISSET & Co.